CHEER CHOPPING

OPRAH WINFREY NETWORK IS CUTTING STAFF AND SHAKING UP EXEC LEADERSHIP, BUT ARE ENOUGH VIEWERS STILL INTERESTED IN THE STATION'S UPLIFTING FARE? PAGE 25

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'They could have all frozen to death'

Vancouver Island. Five teens rescued in the nick of time after being stranded for two days in the wilderness

Cathy Lambert wondered if she'd ever see her grandson again as he and four friends spent two nights stranded on a chilly, remote Vancouver Island logging road.

According to Lake Cowichan RCMP, two teenage girls and three young men headed out Sunday on an off-road adventure when their pickup truck ran out of gas in deep snow.

After one snowy night in the cramped truck cab, one male walked out to get help but he and his father couldn't reach the other four remaining young people, who had no food, water or blankets.

A search was initiated but it wasn't until Wednesday night that members of the Mid-Island Sno-Blazers (snowmobile) Association made their way in. They found the shivering 17-year-old girls — barely conscious — at the side of the road.

The teens had also left the truck in search of help.

Mounties say they were suffering hypothermia-related injuries to their feet. All five teens were taken to hospital but are expected to recover.

"It was scary," Lambert said, recalling her fear. "It's a feeling you can't describe. You wonder if you will ever see the kids again."

She wasn't the only one.

"It was awful getting a call like that in the middle of the night," said Jodi Winda, the mother of one of the young men. "I was thinking the worst, it was terrible. We are so grateful for the rescuers, especially the snowmobilers. Those girls would have been dead (otherwise), I'm sure."

RCMP Cpl. Warren Potter added: "They are very lucky, they could have all frozen to death. There's a lesson here — they were not prepared, they had no emergency kit and they didn't let anyone know where they were going. Very scary."

PHILIP CAMPBELL/METRO

Father not satisfied

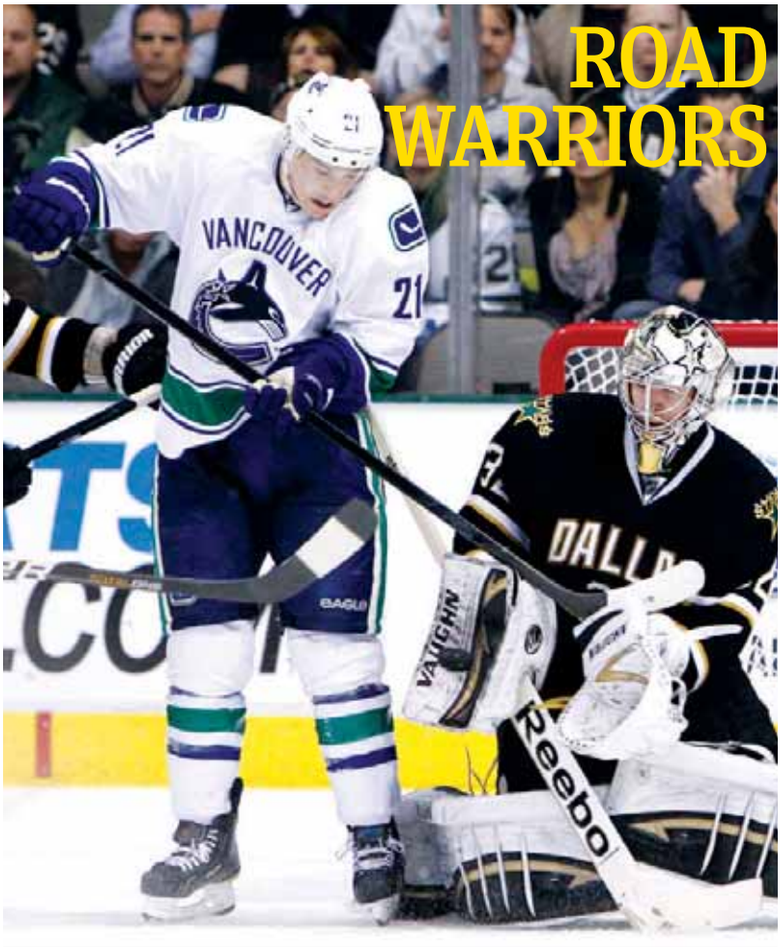
Report cleared RCMP in fatal shooting of son PAGE 3

Own the throne

Take a seat on Game of Thrones' iconic chair PAGE 4

Lawrence on her Game

Actress delivers in eagerly awaited Hunger Games PAGE 19



Stars goalie Kari Lehtonen stops a shot with his pads as the Vancouver Canucks' Mason Raymond applies pressure in an NHL game Thursday in Dallas. The Canucks won 2-1. Story, page 32. TONY GUTIERREZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Social services

Rent banks worth the costs: Councillor

As Vancouver city council prepares to approve micro-loans for renters next week, advocates are gathering Friday in Langley to discuss the program's success in other municipalities.

Rent banks have already been established in Victoria, Prince George and Surrey and provide small emergency loans to low-income individuals in temporary financial difficulty.

"It's been totally worth the cost," said Surrey councillor Judy Villeneuve of the city's rent-bank program. "The expense of dealing with people who are homeless is far greater."

The Surrey Rent Bank has issued 88 loans totalling $75,000 to help nearly 300 low-income renters stay in their homes during difficult circumstances. At the end of February, approximately $15,500 of loans had been repaid.

Judy Peterson, who leads the Surrey Rent Bank, said the forum will feature speakers from other jurisdictions where the program has been supported by other levels of government.

"The province of Ontario has rent banks that have been going for more than 10 years now," Peterson said.

Villeneuve said she would like to see the B.C. government adopt a provincial program similar to Ontario's.

The Vancouver program will annually issue $49,600 in city funds for three years and be administered through Streetohome, a non-profit housing organization.

DANIEL PALMER/FOR METRO

Father angry after RCMP cleared in son's shooting

Investigation. Allan Wright believes officers should be held responsible

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS
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The Office of the Police Complaints Commissioner (OPCC) released a report Wednesday that ruled the three Mounties used reasonable force when they killed Alvin Wright in his Langley home in August 2010.

The officers said Alvin confronted them with a hunting knife and hatchet, and he was shot after he stepped toward an officer with the knife raised.

But Alvin's father can't believe that account.

"I think the (OPCC) should be called the office of police protection instead," Allan Wright said Thursday.

"My son has no criminal record and no history of behaviour like that," he added. "This is one night where he decides to do that and they justify killing him for that. It just doesn't make any sense."

He admits that his son had been drinking and had fought with his common-law wife, but says Alvin was asleep in his room when police entered his son's house.

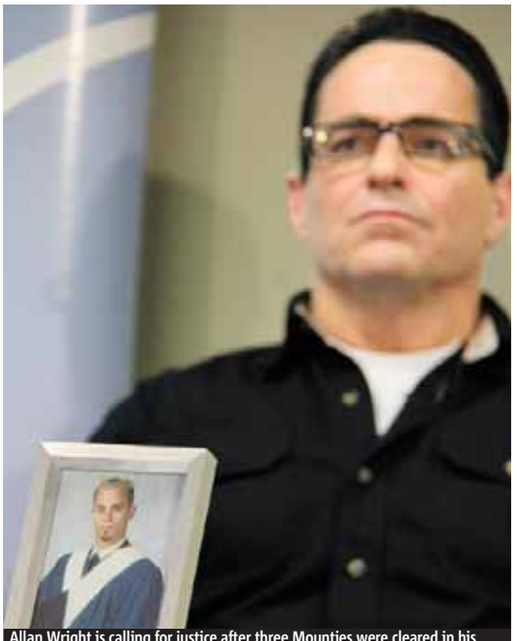
"There were no crimes to investigate," he said. "The police had no reason to believe anyone was in danger."

The Mounties turned a "peaceful and controlled scene" into a deadly shooting, he alleged.

"Nothing about this makes any sense until you realize, as I do now, that the job of the Police Complaint Commissioner is to protect the police," he said.

He hopes the "truth" will come out next week during a Coroner's Inquest into his son's death.

Wright's widow has also launched a civil suit against the RCMP for wrongful death.



Allan Wright is calling for justice after three Mounties were cleared in his son's shooting death. PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS/METRO

Pair of byelections a test for government

The provincial government finally announced two long-awaited byelections Thursday for the under-fire Liberal strongholds of Chilliwack-Hope and Port Moody-Coquitlam.

The byelections provide the first opportunity for opposition parties to test the most recent Ipsos-Reid polling results, which suggest the NDP has 44 per cent of the popular vote, well ahead of the incumbent Liberals at 32 per cent and the B.C. Conservatives at 16 per cent.

"The obvious thing is these are an enormous challenge and test to the Liberal party," Simon Fraser University public policy Prof. Doug McArthur said.

The B.C. Conservatives will run candidates in both electoral districts, which could split the Liberal vote to the benefit of the NDP, McArthur said.

"That would be a huge blow to Liberal fortunes, not just in terms of the impression it creates, but interpreted within the Liberal party as a damning of the current leader," McArthur said.

Christine Clarke, Conservative candidate for Port Moody-Coquitlam, said she expects to run a strong campaign against the Liberals' Dennis Marsden and former Port Moody mayor Joe Trasolini with the NDP.

"We are the party that doesn't represent special-interest groups," said Clarke. "Mr. Trasolini — who, up until the eleventh hour, was running for the Liberals — does he know what he stands for?"

Trasolini said he still regards himself as the underdog, despite the tendency of opposition parties to win byelection seats.

"This has been a stronghold for the Liberals since 1996," Trasolini said, adding he will focus on affordability.

Residents in both byelection districts had expressed mounting frustration at a lack of representation after Liberal MLAs Barry Penner and Iain Black left to pursue private-sector positions.

Premier Christy Clark became the first government candidate in 30 years to win a byelection with her success in Vancouver-Point Grey last May.

DANIEL PALMER/FOR METRO

Byelection candidates

- **Chilliwack-Hope.** Laurie Throness, Liberals; Gwen O'Mahony, NDP; John Martin, Conservatives
- **Port Moody-Coquitlam.** Dennis Marsden, Liberals; Joe Trasolini, NDP; Christine Clarke, Conservatives

1 NEWS

Mobile news

As Facebook and Yahoo get ready for a courtroom battle over patents, the social-networking site has turned to IBM for backup. Scan the code for the story.

On the web

Growing up grizzly

Three orphaned grizzly bear cubs that came to the Detroit Zoo from Alaska in December have made their zoo debut. Mike, Thor and Boo spent the winter as they would have in the wild: "denned up." Watch at metronews.ca/video

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Crime. WorkSafeBC unveils toolkit for domestic violence

When Allen Sawkins wished his partner Tony McNaughton a good day at work one January morning in 2000, domestic violence was the last thing on his mind.

Yet, as Sawkins found out after McNaughton was stabbed to death that day at the Starbucks he managed, domestic violence can reach far beyond the home.

McNaughton was killed when he tried to stop an abusive ex-husband who had come to attack another Starbucks employee.

WorkSafeBC released a new toolkit to employers Thursday, aimed at educating them about domestic violence and about how the effects of such abuse can bleed into the workplace.

Allen Sawkins CONTRIBUTED

"We need to help employers start what is a very difficult, very sensitive conversation to have," said WorkSafeBC senior vice-president Roberta Ellis.

The toolkit, which includes text and educational videos, will be distributed to employers around the province.

It provides employers with strategies to design a culture that encourages victims to ask for help, and tells employers what to do when violence comes to the workplace itself, as it did for McNaughton.

The toolkit was developed in response to a Coroners Service report that called for the Minister of Labour to educate employers about how to deal with such a complex issue.

"If by this we can raise the issue of domestic violence, and violence generally, and do something to counter it," said Sawkins, "then that's part of Tony's legacy."

GRAHAM TEMPLETON/FOR METRO

Yuk Yuk's. Comedy club returns to the city

Yuk Yuk's is back for more belly laughs after a two-year hiatus in Vancouver.

"For over 35 years, we have been responsible for the biggest names in comedy," said Mark Breslin, founder of the comedy-club chain. "That's a tradition that needs to continue."

The popular club was forced to close its doors in 2010 after disagreements arose within the company.

"The franchisee and I did not see eye to eye. He didn't want to build talent nationally, he was really only focused on building talent locally. That's a get-out as far as I'm concerned."

Emo Phillips, considered by Jay Leno to be one of the top joke writers in the world, kicked off the reopening Thursday and continues his set this weekend.

"His jokes are not only beautifully constructed, they also assume a knowledge of religion, politics and philosophy," Breslin says.

"We wanted to make the statement that this is the kind of club that would only show comics who have sophisticated material."

Comedy lovers can look forward to upcoming performances by Gilbert Gottfried, Glen Foster and Jeff McEnery at the 2837 Cambie St. location within the next month. KYLA JONAS/FOR METRO

Campaign trail

TransLink audit coming?

Premier Christy Clark has hinted that the provincial government will embark on a full audit of TransLink, CTV reported Thursday evening.

Clark was on the campaign trail after announcing two provincial byelections and was asked how the government would meet a $30-million shortfall for the Evergreen rapid transit project.

METRO

Bottled-water ban

Weaning students off the bottle

Vancouver Community College (VCC) pledged Thursday to be bottled-water-free by spring 2013, making it the first Metro Vancouver regional district college or university to do so.

"We're proud of our students' commitment to sustainability," VCC president Kathy Kinloch said in a statement Thursday.

GRAHAM TEMPLETON/FOR METRO

Ken Charko, independent theatre representative of the Motion Picture Theatre Association of B.C., left, and Corinne Lea, owner and manager of the Rio Theatre in East Vancouver, want the province to cut more red tape for small venues that host both licensed and dry events. KATE WEBB/METRO

Indie theatres want change to booze rules

Banding together. Coalition of independent theatres calls on B.C. to cut more red tape

KATE WEBB
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Rio Theatre owner Corinne Lea is still waging a battle with the B.C. government to get more red tape cut around her liquor licence, and now a coalition of 35 independent theatres is behind her.

Ken Charko, representative for independent theatres at the Motion Picture Theatre Association of B.C., sent a letter to Minister Rich Coleman this week on behalf of the group.

The two major issues, he said, are the 14-day waiting period for licensed theatres that want to hold a dry movie screening during the hours they are licensed in the evening, and the $110 fee the Liquor Control and Licensing Branch (LCLB) charges for allowing them to do so.

Charko said for theatres like the Rio, giving 14 business days' notice, which works out to more like three weeks, is not always possible.

"The way our industry works is you book on Monday, you play on Friday, for smaller theatres. It's different than majors," he said. "See, Cineplex knows it's going to be playing Hunger Games, so they can say 'We've got 12 screens, of course we're going to be playing Hunger Games,' but a small, one-screen theatre, you don't know until the Monday before sometimes."

Coleman, who is handling the file on movie theatres and liquor licences, was away on vacation and could not be reached for comment.

Charko said he remains optimistic that the Liberal government will hear the voices of independent theatre owners and make the desired adjustments.

"What I'm interested in is a level playing field for all in the industry, so that no one has a competitive advantage over anyone else," he said.

"I know that (the minister) is working hard to make sure that these little things change, and it's going to happen soon."

This throne's for you

It takes a special breed of fan to get up early for a 12-hour Game of Thrones marathon, but it takes a true "Thronie" to do it the morning after a midnight screening of The Hunger Games.

Vancouverite James Fraser will change out of her Hunger Games outfit after the late-night show, catch a few hours of sleep, then get right into a medieval gown for the 7:30 a.m. start of the Thrones marathon at Vancity Theatre.

Even after half a day of fantasy action and drama, fans will stay for the unveiling of the eponymous Iron Throne itself.

The iconic prop throne used in filming for the show has been delighting fans in its tour across North America. Now it's Vancouver's turn.

"I've been so excited to see the throne," Fraser said Thursday. "I've been gushing about it to anybody who will listen."

Movie Central, which is responsible for the Vancouver exhibition of the prop, has seen enormous reaction to both the marathon and the throne's arrival.

"There's been a ton of interest," Movie Central marketing director Winny Hui Giannini said Thursday. "It's generated a lot of buzz with the fans."

When asked why she thinks some people become so loyal to the show, and the books on which it's based, Fraser said it all comes back to good, old-fashioned writing.

"The characters are just so real," she said. "They're intriguing, but twisted.... In this world of Hollywood artificiality, everything gets wrapped up with a pretty bow on it. That's not Game of Thrones. It's really refreshing."

The throne will be on public display at the Vancity Theatre all day Friday.

GRAHAM TEMPLETON/FOR METRO

The Iron Throne, as seen on HBO's Game of Thrones. GRAHAM TEMPLETON/FOR METRO

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SHOPPERS DRUG MART

Long legal road ahead for B.C. teachers

Bill 22. Union's last battle against back-to-work legislation took 10 years

KATE WEBB
kate.webb@metronews.ca

A University of Victoria expert on educational history and policy in B.C. says teachers would be better off challenging the Liberal government's controversial Bill 22 in court than on the street.

The jury is still out on whether the bill is an unconstitutional reincarnation of two previous bills passed in 2002 to end teachers' rights to negotiate class size, composition and specialist teacher ratios.

Thomas Fleming, author of the book Worlds Apart: B.C. Schools, Politics and Labour Relations Before and After 1972, said that, for now, teachers would be well advised to avoid an illegal strike.

"I think it would be more orderly for them to challenge (the provincial government) in court than it would be for them to launch an illegal strike," he said.

B.C. Teachers' Federation president Susan Lambert said Wednesday teachers do intend to mount a legal challenge of Bill 22, in addition to holding a provincewide vote next month in which they will also decide whether to protest it with an illegal strike. She said the new law contains all the characteristics of bills 27 and 28, which a B.C. Supreme Court judge ruled violated teachers' charter rights.

Fleming, though, thinks that ruling was more ambiguous than teachers are willing to admit.

"The decision for the last one, I think, has been read in two different ways," he said. "I think government has read it one way, that they are obliged to consult, and I think they did launch a series of consultations with the (BCTF). The federation claimed that (the ruling) supported its right to bargain class sizes and composition, and I don't think the judgment went that far."

The new Education Improvement Act, the result of Bill 22, says teachers' collective agreements cannot restrict or set limits on class size or composition. It took teachers nearly 10 years to successfully fight bills 27 and 28, which contained similar language.

In her ruling on the case, the judge said class size and composition are an important part of teachers' employment conditions, and they therefore have the right to bring them up at the bargaining table. That right, she said, however, does not guarantee any specific outcome.

Teachers protest Bill 22 in downtown Vancouver earlier this week.
MATT KIELTYKA/METRO FILE

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Students help cash-strapped moms deal with baby blues

Charity drive. Low-income parents have to choose between paying rent and buying diapers, says YWCA

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS
phylicia.torrevillas@metronews.ca

A group of Simon Fraser University students is helping single mothers get through a bump in the road.

Lynn Shinto, Joseph Choi and Mercedes Book launched a local non-profit organization called One Big Movement (OBM) in December with the hope of creating a lasting impact in the community.

Shinto says their first project, the Big Baby Drive, targets low-income women from across the Lower Mainland and helps address an alarming demand for baby necessities in the community.

The drive, which began Thursday and runs Friday at the Oakridge Centre, aims to collect more than 1,000 baby-supply items.

Shinto says they've received infant basics from baby crates and diapers to feeding bottles and toys.

All proceeds and donations go to YWCA Metro Vancouver, which provides support for single mothers and their families.

According to the B.C. Child Poverty Report Card, the poverty rate for B.C. children living in families headed by lone-parent mothers in 2009 was about 24 per cent.

YWCA's Vanessa Wellington says she's heard a lot of teen moms and single mothers express a need for baby supplies.

"The price of diapers, baby food are really expensive for single moms on social assistance," she said. "If you're a single mom, quite often you have to decide whether you pay for your rent, your hydro or your food. They're constantly stuck in this."

She says it's great that a group like OBM is helping to support mothers in need.

Joseph Choi and Lynn Shinto of One Big Movement want to help low-income single mothers by collecting baby supplies through the Big Baby Drive. All donations will go to YWCA Metro Vancouver PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS/METRO

Hot debate stirring over cold-blooded pets

Do bearded lizards make good pets? The Vancouver Humane Society doesn't think so. THE CANADIAN PRESS

There's a debate slithering around having reptiles as pets as an exotic-reptile show returns to the Richmond Nature Park this weekend.

Although stressing that a cold-blooded pet needs a diligent owner, the show's operator doesn't see a problem with people owning lizards and snakes.

"Reptiles can make great pets as long as you're responsible.... If they want one, we let them know it's a 20-year commitment and a major responsibility," said Gail Watson, snake owner and founder of the West Coast Society for the Protection and Conservation of Reptiles.

"If you're intent on owning a reptile, get a snake. Snakes are mild-tempered from the day they're born till the day they die."

But Peter Fricker of the Vancouver Humane Society is campaigning against reptile ownership because the "animals retain their natural instincts and don't make good pets."

"Reptiles are complex, their needs are much too specific," he said. "A lot of people think the answer is more education of the reptile and that people can be taught proper care. We just disagree. It doesn't work."

Watson sees it differently.

"Sure, they have their natural instincts. They like to drink, they like to eat and they'll mate if you let them," he said. "They're just like any other animal."

Although Watson and Fricker disagree on reptile ownership, they both acknowledge it's important to understand the responsibility that comes with owning a pet before making a purchase. Neither wants to see an animal abandoned.

KYLA JONAS/FOR METRO

AHL

Wear a 'stache, win some cash

The Abbotsford Heat will be hosting NHL legend Lanny McDonald on March 29 as they play the Chicago Wolves and host their new Hockey Heroes celebration.

Attendees are invited to grow or otherwise recreate McDonald's famous mustache, and anyone with a Lanny-like soup-strainer will have a chance to win $500.

The puck drops at 7 p.m. Thursday.

GRAHAM TEMPLETON/FOR METRO

Coast Salish

Feds recognize importance of Cowichan sweater

The distinctive Cowichan sweater of the Coast Salish First Nation has graced the bodies of people worldwide, and now it's being recognized by the Canadian government.

The bold, patterned sweater is one of 13 First Nations items, sites or persons that Ottawa has designated as having national historic significance.

Environment Minister Peter Kent announced the designations Thursday, saying they bring to life the spiritual, cultural and physical ties that First Nations have in Canada.

The Coast Salish of Squamish have combined ancient wool working with European knitting to construct Cowichan sweaters dating back to the late 19th century. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Reform

First report on clogged judicial system submitted

The lawyer appointed to review B.C.'s overburdened court system has delivered his first progress report to Justice Minister Shirley Bond.

Geoffrey Cowper says he's completed his preliminary work after meeting with more than 60 people, including judges, lawyers, police and the Legal Services Society.

He was appointed last month to find ways to reform the court system, which is facing a huge backlog of cases, many of which have been tossed out because of long delays.

Cowper, whose final report is expected in July, says his next update will outline what could be done in the short term.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Crime

Man busted in grow-op raid

A 38-year-old man has been arrested after police found a massive marijuana grow-op in the North Okanagan.

RCMP spokesman Gord Molyndyk says police raided a property in Falkland, near Vernon, and discovered more than 13,000 pot plants in various stages of growth in a large shed.

He says the operation was probably producing millions of dollars worth of pot. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Economy

B.C. consumers show confidence

Two promising economic indicators for B.C. were released Thursday.

The Conference Board of Canada says the province led the country in rising consumer confidence in March.

And Statistics Canada says B.C. was among the top three provinces in gains in retail sales last month. Ontario led with 1.5 per cent growth, while Alberta followed at 0.6 per cent and B.C. at 0.3 per cent. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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United Nations

Cause of Houston's death revealed

Whitney Houston died from drowning in a hotel bathtub, but coroner officials said Thursday that heart disease and chronic cocaine use were contributing factors to the singer's death.

The release of autopsy findings Thursday ends weeks of speculation about what killed the Grammy-winning singer on Feb. 11 on the eve of the Grammy Awards. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ill patients

Doctor-assisted suicide should be allowed: Panel

A landmark report in Quebec recommends that doctors be allowed to help terminally ill patients die, in exceptional circumstances, if they want to.

The report was released Thursday in the Quebec legislature, after two years of work from the so-called Dying With Dignity Committee.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Conflict of interest

Minister broke the rules, watchdog says

Industry Minister Christian Paradis broke conflict-of-interest rules in 2009 when he gave a former Tory colleague preferential treatment to pitch for a government contract, the Commons ethics watchdog said Thursday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Nova Scotia

Anti-bullying proposal criticized

Nova Scotia Education Minister Ramona Jennex is challenging a recommendation to appoint a co-ordinator to oversee the government's anti-bullying strategy, saying she doesn't want another layer of bureaucracy.

The proposal comes from a task force established last April after two sets of grieving parents publicly complained that online bullying was responsible for the suicides of their teenage daughters. THE CANADIAN PRESS

McClintic denies being 'engine' behind murder

Warning. Graphic details from this court case may disturb some readers

Terri-Lynne McClintic is transported from court in London, Ont., on March 16.
DAVE CHIDLEY/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The woman convicted of killing Victoria Stafford flatly denied a suggestion Thursday that she was the "engine" behind a plot that went deeper than she has let on, saying she didn't think she was walking the eight-year-old girl to her death.

"I take full responsibility for my actions," Terri-Lynne McClintic told court in London, Ont. "I did what I did. But I'm not the only guilty party here, and that's why I'm sitting here today."

The 21-year-old is already serving a life sentence after pleading guilty to first-degree murder, but is now testifying at the trial of her ex-boyfriend. Michael Rafferty, 31, has pleaded not guilty to first-degree murder, sexual assault causing bodily harm and kidnapping.

The jury has now seen how McClintic's story about the events of April 8, 2009, the day Tori disappeared, has morphed from an all-out denial, to saying she was there but didn't see how Tori died, to saying Rafferty raped Tori and then killed her using a hammer, to now saying it was she who inflicted the fatal blows.

The latest version of events first came up at a counselling session just days before the start of Rafferty's pre-trial in January, court heard.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

McClintic's writing

Journal entries 'disturbing': Lawyer

Michael Rafferty's lawyer Dirk Derstine cross-examined McClintic about journal writings filled with what he called "deeply disturbing, horrifically violent imagery." McClintic wrote about wanting to grab a random person, mutilate them, smash their skull and inflict various manners of torture upon them. At the time she wrote them, she said, a year or two before Tori's murder, she used her writing as an outlet to vent her rage.

"You confessed under oath to beating a child to death with a hammer," Derstine said. "That's a little bit more than anger issues, wouldn't you agree?"

McClintic said she's not proud of who she was then, but she underwent a transformation in July 2008 when she got in touch with her emotions. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Massive march. Students stage large rally in Montreal

A monster crowd that evoked memories of Montreal's famous 1995 pre-referendum rally formed a kilometres-long sea of opposition Thursday to higher university tuition fees.

The protest began in the same downtown square that hosted the pro-Canada love fest just days before the independence referendum.

Like that historic rally, this one filled the square. But it went on, and on, for blocks.

In a spring laden with demonstrations against the Quebec government, Thursday's was easily the largest.

The parade of protest was so long that its front end would be a full neighbourhood — or even two — away from the tail end. An organizing group boasted that the protest spanned 50 city blocks; media estimates of its length varied from two kilometres to more than four.

There were no incidents involving the chanting, placard-waving throng. There were, however, reports of some protesters carrying sticks.

There was also a threat from a major protest group: "If the government doesn't announce a retreat on the (tuition) hike today the next step will involve actions that disrupt the economy," the C.L.A.S.S.E. group posted on its Twitter page.

Thousands of students march through the streets of downtown Montreal with an effigy of Premier Jean Charest in a massive protest against tuition fee hikes Thursday. RYAN REMIORZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The demonstration came two days after the provincial budget and a blunt refusal by Premier Jean Charest's government to back down on the hikes.

The province is nearly doubling tuition fees over five years, to about $3,800. It will reach its target with a series of $325-a-year increases. However, the tuition fees in the province will still be among the lowest in Canada even after the hikes.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Fighting fee hikes

Protesters come from across Canada

A number of protesters were from other Canadian provinces. One said that, while it might be true that Quebec has low fees, it's a principle worth fighting to keep.

"Where I was from before we were trying to fight the same idea (of fee hikes) — but a lot of people didn't get together like they have in Quebec," said Parker Dorris of Cranbrook, B.C., who studies at Montreal's Concordia University.

"That's one of the main reasons I came to Quebec, because it's such a liberal province and they fight for these kinds of rights."

Another student from Newfoundland and Labrador, 21-year-old Laura Battcock, said she came to Montreal to study dance because the program she wanted didn't exist back home. Now she's afraid she won't be able to afford it if fees increase.

Police did not provide a precise crowd estimate Thursday, but did say that the turnout was probably closer to 100,000 than the 200,000 claimed by protest leaders.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Change in course. Military downgrades plan for an Arctic naval facility

Canada's military has quietly downgraded plans for an Arctic naval facility the government has pointed to as a symbol of how seriously it takes northern issues.

"The intent of the (northern naval facility) will remain ... but its functionality will be reduced," says a late February letter. It was sent from the government to the northern environmental regulator overseeing the Nanisivik project on northern Baffin Island at the eastern gate of the Northwest Passage.

"Original plans for permanent buildings including workshops, accommodations and offices have all been scrapped along with plans for waste treatment facilities. The only new building on site is to be a large, unheated warehouse.

"Concerns about shoreline and permafrost stability have set back for years plans to upgrade the existing wharf, originally built in the late 1970s to service the now-closed Nanisivik lead-zinc mine.

Proposals to store two season's worth of fuel have been scaled to a single season, halving the size of the projected tank farm. Permanent communications equipment won't be installed.

Other downgrades

- **Not ready.** A research station in Cambridge Bay, Nunavut, also promised in 2007, won't be ready until 2017. A major high-altitude research facility was recently shuttered on Ellesmere Island.

The facility will only operate in the summer and will be shut down in the winter.

Those visiting it will stay in trailers now on site. Nanisivik will now depend on the nearby Nunavut community of Arctic Bay for services.

The letter, from project manager Rodney Watson, suggests the changes are new.

"A detailed design is not yet available, as these changes have just recently been determined," he wrote.

Officials from the Defence Department were not immediately available to comment.

"It becomes, basically, a gas station," said Rob Huebert of the University of Calgary's Centre for Military and Strategic Studies.

"What we're doing is taking away from the ability of having people up there."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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French standoff ends with accused murder suspect shot dead

Shock. Suspect in deaths of three locals, three children and a rabbi boasted of crimes

In a dramatic end to a 32-hour standoff, a masked French SWAT team slipped into the apartment of an Islamist extremist Thursday, sparking a firefight that ended with the suspect jumping out the window and being shot dead in the head.

Mohamed Merah, 23, was wanted in the deaths of three French paratroopers, three Jewish schoolchildren and a rabbi — all killed since March 11 in what Merah reportedly told police was an attempt to "bring France to its knees."

Police had been trying to capture him alive since a predawn raid Wednesday to arrest him at his apartment in the southwestern city of Toulouse.

The killings he was accused of — and boasted about to police — have shocked France, ignited fear in moderate Muslims about stoking discrimination and may even affect the country's upcoming presidential election.

Police officers work outside suspect Mohamed Merah's apartment in Toulouse, France, on Thursday. THIBAULT CAMUS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The seven slayings, carried out in three motorcycle shooting attacks, are believed to be the first killings inspired by Islamic radical motives in France since the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

French President Nicolas Sarkozy, speaking in Paris, said an investigation was under way to see if Merah, a French citizen of Algerian descent who claimed links to al-Qaida, had any accomplices.

His mother and a brother were detained Wednesday by police after the mother's computer bewcame a critical link in tracking Merah down.

The brother, Abdelkader, had already been linked to Iraqi Islamist networks.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Indian market gutted by fire

A shop owner gestures to firefighters, amid debris of shops destroyed in a fire at Hatibagan market in Kolkata Thursday. More than 200 shops and 1,200 stalls have been gutted in the fire in one of the oldest markets in the city, according to the police. No casualties have been reported. BIKAS DAS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Petition

Spanish fans fight to have bull ban overturned

Spanish premier Mariano Rajoy and Nobel literature laureate Mario Vargas Llosa are among 590,000 who have signed a petition to Parliament urging bullfighting to be protected nationally and for a ban to be overturned.

Last year, lawmakers in the Catalonia region banned bullfighting over animal-rights concerns. The ban took effect Jan. 1. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Murder trial

Teen accused in tourists' killing tried to rob victims: Prosecutor

A U.S. teen accused of killing two British tourists told a friend that he saw the victims walking in his neighbourhood and intended to rob them, prosecutors said Thursday.

Prosecutors said Shawn Tyson, 17, shot them after a robbery gone wrong.

Tyson is charged with two counts of first-degree murder in the deaths of 24-year-old James Kouzaris and 25-year-old James Cooper last April. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Study. Living in sin before marriage ain't bad if couple is committed

New research by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention suggests times have changed from the days when living together signalled poor chances for a successful marriage later on.

"It's not playing as big a role in predicting divorce as it used to," said Casey Copen, lead author of the study.

The study found those who were engaged and living together before the wedding were about as likely to have marriages that lasted 15 years as couples who hadn't lived together. Couples living together who weren't engaged were seven per cent more likely to get divorced. Commitment makes a difference. In women with long marriages who lived with their spouse first, firm belief in a future was a common theme. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Findings:

- **50/50.** Nearly half of first marriages will break up within 20 years.
- **Background.** Asian women were the most likely to be in a long-lasting first marriage.

Brazil

Chip-imbedded uniforms track kids

Grade-school students in a northeastern Brazilian city are using uniforms embedded with locator chips that help alert parents if they're cutting classes, the city's education secretary said Thursday.

Radio frequency chips in "intelligent uniforms" let a computer know when children enter school and it sends a text message to their cellphones. Parents are also alerted if kids don't show up 20 minutes after classes begin, with the message: "Your child has still not arrived at school." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Want a liquor licence? Ban rap first, Quebec bar told

Diane Marois, co-owner of Le Pionnier. Quebec's liquor-control board has forced the suburban Montreal bar to outlaw hip-hop and rap acts in exchange for an alcohol permit. RYAN REMIORZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Racist? Anti-racism group calls board's decision discriminatory

The new operators of a suburban Montreal bar promise to showcase the big hair of 1980s tribute bands, stacks of jumbo chicken wings and maybe even a mechanical bull.

But to ensure the watering hole could add booze to that list, they had to promise to do away with one thing: live hip-hop and rap performances.

Quebec's liquor-control board told the incoming managers of Le Pionnier to outlaw the two music genres if they wanted any hope of acquiring a licence.

Quotable

"We are the guardians of the permits — a permit is not a right, it's a privilege."

Joyce Tremblay, liquor board spokeswoman, who added local police asked the board to include the no-hip-hop condition.

An anti-racism group and Facebook protest page say the move smacks of discrimination against black people.

But the venue's co-owner, who took over the bar last fall, said she had no choice but to agree because the joint needs to serve suds to survive.

"My first reaction was (that) it's very discriminatory," said Diane Marois, who co-owns the bar.

"I don't think it's right in the first place, but ... I'd rather be up and running with a limited venue as opposed to being closed."

A spokeswoman for the liquor board said it's "normal" in Quebec for permit applications to include conditions that forbid specific types of musical acts.

She said she did not have a problem with the condition.

Marois said she's surprised how much influence police now wield when it comes to the operations of bars.

"I feel the police ... they're stepping out of their bounds." THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Market Moment

DOLLAR
100.03¢ US
(-0.75¢)

TSX
12,361.8 (-74.7)

OIL
$105.01 US (-$2.26)

GOLD
$1,642.50 US (-$7.80)

Natural gas: $2.287 US (-7.3¢)
Dow Jones: 13,046.1 (-78.5)

Tech troubles

Megaupload host: Pay expenses or lose data

The company hosting the frozen data of millions of users of the file sharing site Megaupload says somebody needs to pay the company's bill or allow it to delete the data.

Carpathia Hosting filed an emergency motion this week in U.S. federal court in Virginia seeking protection from the expense of hosting the data of up to 66 million users. It says it is using more than 1,100 servers to store the 25 million gigabytes of data.

In the motion filed Tuesday, the Virginia-based company said it is paying $9,000 a day to host the data, which works out to more than $500,000 since January. That is when U.S. authorities shut down the Megaupload site and worked with authorities in New Zealand to have its founder, Kim Dotcom, arrested. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Air Canada

Baggage handlers stage wildcat strike

Air Canada baggage handlers staged a wildcat walkout at Toronto's Pearson International Airport on Thursday, grounding several flights.

Passengers who had boarded at least one flight bound for Ottawa were told to deplane and return to the terminal.

Various media reports said about 150 workers were involved in the walkout.

Air Canada labour woes continue. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

The federal government recently passed legislation banning strikes or lockouts at Air Canada. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Losing ground. Canadians hang up on BlackBerry in favour of the iPhone

Research In Motion has been ousted from the top spot in the Canadian smartphone market by Apple's iPhone.

"The new smartphones that compete with BlackBerry — they're not worse and they're cooler," said Queen's University marketing professor and tech expert John Pliniussen.

The Waterloo, Ont., company shipped just more than two million BlackBerrys last year in Canada, compared with 2.85 million units for Apple, says a report by Bloomberg, based on data compiled by Bloomberg and tech trends firm IDC.

Smartphones using Google's Android operating system, like Samsung, Motorola and HTC, also have been eating away at RIM's market share globally.

RIM has stepped up its marketing efforts to promote BlackBerrys in North America, especially the lucrative U.S. market, where tech-savvy consumers haven't been buying as many of them.

BlackBerrys simply aren't being pitched hard enough to consumers, Pliniussen said.

"The average business person is seeing everybody using

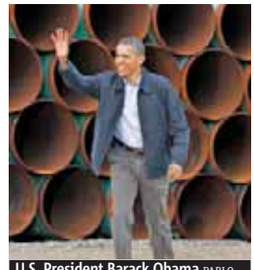
Is Blackberry losing the smartphone war? RYAN REMIORZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Apples and there is a seduction about being cool and having the latest." **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Oil issue. Obama calls for fast-tracking of Keystone pipeline's southern leg

U.S. President Barack Obama pushed Thursday for the speedy approval for the southern leg of TransCanada's Keystone XL pipeline as he insisted oil has an important place in his national energy plans.

"Today, I am directing my administration to cut through red tape, break through bureaucratic hurdles and make this project a priority," Obama said to applause as he stood in front of stacks of pipe to be used to build a portion of Keystone XL from Cushing, Okla., to Gulf Coast refineries.


U.S. President Barack Obama PABLO MARTINEZ MONSIVAIS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The announcement came just a few weeks after Obama rejected the entire length of Keystone XL, a pipeline that would transport Alberta oilsands bitumen from the northern reaches of the province through six U.S. states to Texas.

The president had said there wasn't enough time to review a new route around a crucial aquifer in Nebraska.

The southern leg of Keystone XL is already slated to begin construction as early as June. Calgary-based TransCanada has been waiting for a permit from just one remaining agency overseeing public works, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Brewing bill

U.S. rethinking alcohol laws

An explosion of interest in home brewing is forcing lawmakers across the U.S. to review long-forgotten alcohol laws, some of which date back to Prohibition in the 1920s.

Although the old laws have rarely been enforced, beer enthusiasts fear they could criminalize the rapidly growing hobby and kill scores of annual tasting events that bring tourists to small towns and cities.

In Wisconsin, home brewers may soon be off the hook. Last week, the state legislature passed a bill to allow them to transport homemade beer and wine and to share it with other adults. Brewers will still not be permitted to sell anything they make.

Amber Hill, left, and her father, Howard Hill, wait to sample a beer at the BrewFest in Racine, Wis. MARK HERTZBERG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The proposal now heads to Governor Scott Walker, who plans to sign it into law.

At least 17 states have ambiguous laws on whether home brewers can transport beer or wine outside the home, according to the American Homebrewers Association. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

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GEEKS LINE UP TO GET NEW IPAD

THE LIST
Mike Benhaim
Metro

1 **Body of work:** Charlie Sheen's porn-star ex-girlfriend Bree Olson produced a video designed to hasten the capture of fugitive Ugandan rebel leader Joseph Kony.
The clip shows a bikini-clad Olson wiggling in the sand, while flashing harsh images of the conflict. Because nothing screams "justice" quite like a healthy dose of cleavage. Where was she when we were trying to free Nelson Mandela?

2 **Punk'd in Space:** Sir Richard Branson has declared that his Virgin Galactic spaceships "are built and flying in the final stages of our exhaustive test flight program." Tickets to outer space will cost about $200,000 US. Ashton Kutcher has already signed on for the Virgin voyage, and will attempt to stash his assets far from Demi Moore.

3 **Take a byte:** Thousands of consumers lined up outside of Apple's flagship stores in NYC last week to buy the newest iPad. Investment firm UBS conducted a survey to find out why customers hadn't attempted to order online. A handful of people stated, "What else would we do on a Friday night? We're nerds."

4 **Poetic Demeanor:** Congrats to Kris Demeanor on becoming Calgary's first poet laureate. He hopes to find creative ways to get Calgarians into the enjoyment of language. Engaging Canadian youth might be a challenge, but perhaps he can create rhymes in SMS. "R U well? Luv ur smell. Lol." Good luck, Kris!

5 **Sign of the times:** So jaded are sports fans in Toronto that when a player like Phil Kessel actually reaches peak performance, all we can say is "Quick, trade him!" The rationale, of course, is that it's got to be downhill from here. I liken this to my wife serving me leftovers from a delicious home-cooked meal, and saying, "Eat fast. It's just about to rot."

6 **Retro in HD:** This Sunday marks the long-awaited two-hour premiere of Mad Men's 5th season. The show is popular among those nostalgic for a time when men had body hair and women had real breasts. Also recommended for anyone feeling guilty about their parenting skills, or how much they drink and smoke.

7 **Ready to Rumba:** Dancing with the Stars premiered this week with an odd crew of has-beens, might-bes and barely-ares. Nevertheless, after watching 15 intermittent minutes, I am prepared to make predictions. A "Pip-less" Gladys Knight will lose early, but thank the lord for the journey. Urkel will do the robot at least once and Martina Navratilova will struggle not to lead. Finalists: Welsh soprano Katherine Jenkins, Latino stud William Levy and Prairie star Melissa Gilbert.

8 **Beach-body:** Every spring we discover our "winter fat" and torture ourselves with diets. Now, there is a great new book called Unjunk Your Junk Food, for people (like me) who refuse to forgo the sweets for more than a couple of days. Instead of contradicting Marie Antoinette, Andrea Donsky and friends will simply tell you which cake to choose. A free sneak peek is available for download at naturallysavvy.com. Also, when returning from the supermarket, try taking the stairs.

The cast of Mad Men. AMC/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Check out my hot panels

GETTY IMAGES

Harnessing the sun

Obama takes a shine to solar energy

BOULDER CITY, NEV. Amid soaring fuel prices, Obama finds solace in solar.

U.S. President Barack Obama speaks at Copper Mountain Solar 1 facility, the largest photovoltaic solar plant in the United States. Obama is on a four-state trip to promote renewable fuels and increasing domestic oil and gas production.

MWN

Bright facts

- **Most untapped renewable resource.** More energy hits Earth from the sun in one hour than the whole planet uses all year; 120,000 terrawatts of solar energy hits Earth daily. Over one year, Earth uses 15 terrawatts of energy.
- **Poor-efficiency conversion.** Solar panels now have efficiency conversion rate of 15 per cent; water turbines up to 90 per cent.

He says:

"I don't want to break one of these. They look expensive."

Obama said jokingly as he walked past a solar panel.

A lot of power

1 million

solar panels are at the Copper Mountain plant, which at peak performance are capable of producing 58 megawatts of clean electricity, enough to power more than 17,000 average homes.

Metropolitan Panel

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What the NHL needs more than anything is:

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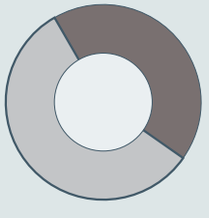

43% RULES TO PROTECT SUPER-STARS FROM INJURY

Twitter

@StyleStruck:
The weather in this city changes faster than a fashionista can keep up with the necessary outfits. #Vancouver

@Matt_Grosso:
It looks terrible for hockey to have Vancouver head into playoffs without a Sedin. While injury is part of game, that one was unnecessary

@stevemalsey:
Daniel Sedin's injury isn't crippling, remember last time he was hurt Henrik went on a tear and was the Hart and Art Ross Trophy winner.

@PabloP74:
If Keith doesn't get suspended for his hit on D. Sedin, this will only serve to add fuel to the fire should they meet again in playoffs!

@spearwife:
Why do I have work/plans this weekend, I want to drive to Vancouver for the Game of Thrones thing :(

metro
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Jennifer Lawrence has found the role she'll likely forever be associated with in The Hunger Games. HANDOUT

Film will satisfy hungry fans

Reel Guys

RICHARD CROUSE AND MARK BRESLIN

The Hunger Games.

Jennifer Lawrence brings an emotional richness to the book's main character, Katniss Everdeen

Richard: Mark, from its opening moments, The Hunger Games feels more intimate than your average blockbuster thanks to some inventive hand held camera work. And that's a good thing. As fans of the books know, the focus of the story is the characters. Sure, they are thrown into a wild situation, but admiring Katniss Everdeen's inner strength and courage or Peeta Mellark's big heart is as important to the success of the story as are the action scenes or the dystopian premise. What did you think?

Mark: Yes, but I never quite saw Katniss and Peeta as a couple, perhaps because she seems so much more savvy than him, or perhaps because he has the name of a Lebanese flatbread. But Jennifer Lawrence is strong enough to carry this movie on her own, anyway; she's that good. As far as the rest of the film goes, I loved the first 40 minutes — everything that leads up to the actual games — but found the rest of it a bigger budget version of Survivor on steroids.

RC: Lawrence has found the role that she will, likely, forever be associated with and brings substance to it. She gives Katniss a rich inner life — you can see the machinations of the character churning behind her eyes. Without her level of performance this would be a far less interesting movie. Having said that, I enjoyed the movie's steampunk world; that mix of old and new to create something familiar, yet strange.

MB: I thought the art direction and costuming of the capitol really created a vivid portrayal of a decadent, fey society. Although I have to say that Elizabeth Banks' over the top Marie Antoinette impression was grating and out of whack with even the most satirical elements of the movie. And the satire worked for me — it isn't really that far from current reality shows. Although there were derivative elements in the story, using teenagers as contestants amps up the cruelty factor.

RC: I enjoyed Banks. I thought she brought some much-needed levity to a grim story about kids killing one another. But as much as I enjoyed the movie — and I really did — I couldn't help but wonder what a truly visionary director like Terry Gilliam might have done with this material.

MB: Yes, I did think Gary Ross, director of sweet fare like Pleasantville and writer of Big, was an odd choice. But casting Woody Harrelson as the mentor? *Brilliant* choice!

Synopsis

- The Hunger Games is set in Panem, a dystopian world ruled by a fascistic leader (Donald Sutherland). Each year the state holds The Hunger Games, a battle to death between 24 players, two from each of the country's districts. The televised games are equal parts Miss Universe, American Idol and Death Race. The story follows two "tributes" from District 12: Katniss Everdeen (Jennifer Lawrence) and Peeta Mellark (Josh Hutcherson), two reluctant warriors whose survival is at stake.

- Richard ●●●●○
- Mark ●●●○○

2 SCENE

Scene in brief

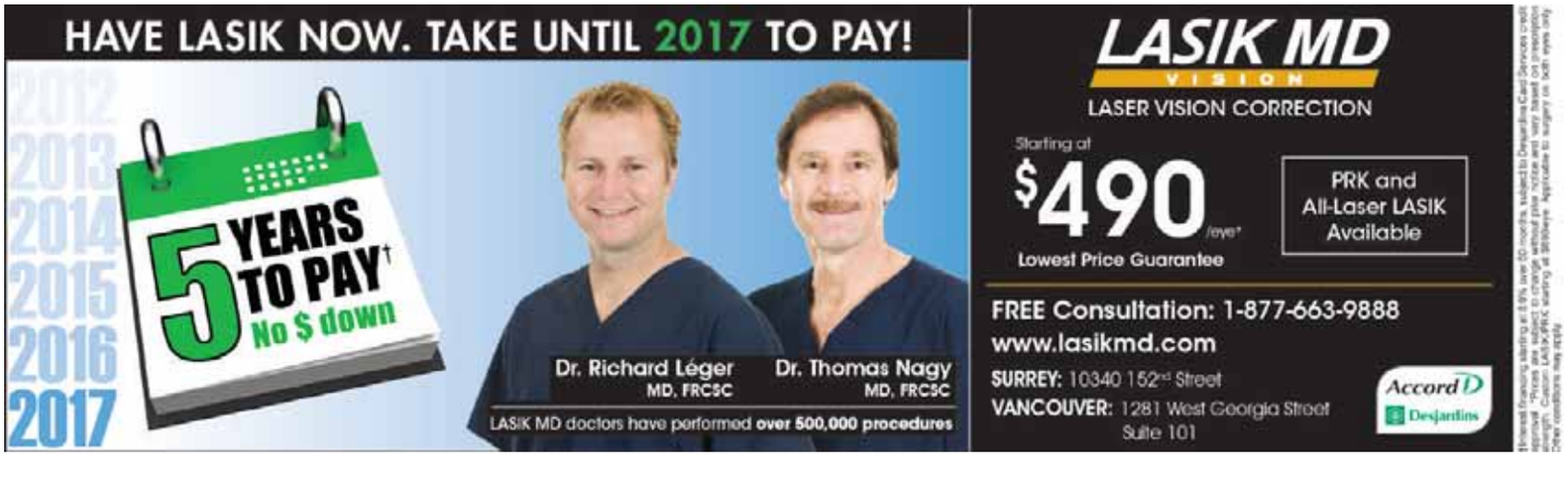
Alabama honours Octavia

Oscar-winning actress Octavia Spencer is being honoured at the Alabama Statehouse, where about 400 people turned out to welcome her. Spencer won this year's best supporting actress Oscar for her performance as a maid in The Help. She rode up to the Statehouse in a pink limousine for the Wednesday ceremony. As she stepped out, she was serenaded by the band from her alma mater, Jefferson Davis High School. A Montgomery native, Spencer told the crowd that she would do whatever she could to see that more movies are made in Alabama. She also cautioned young people in the audience to think twice before heading to Hollywood to become a movie star.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the web

Gay-themed movie by Serbian director helps overcome Balkan ethnic divide and homophobia



Drama

Footnote

Director. Joseph Cedar

Stars. Shlomo Bar-Aba, Lior Ashkenazi, Aliza Rosen

●●●●○

Israel's 2012 Foreign Language Oscar entry is an intriguing story that would be funny if it weren't so pathetic. Israeli father and son academics are torn apart by a national prize; the elder doggedly pursued Talmudic theories for thirty years only to have them made redundant when a colleague scooped him. In his obsessive, paranoid misery, he sees his son as his real rival. Things get a lot worse in grandly academic ways.

ANNE BRODIE

Documentary

One Life

Directors. Michael Gunton, Martha Holmes

Stars. Daniel Craig

●●●●○

Narrated by Daniel Craig, One Life is an astonishing, albeit conventional, nature doc about survival in the wild. Compiled from a wide-array of footage filmed beautifully by the BBC (who have a fine reputation with nature series), the film is broad in focus but a stunning introduction to everything from water-walking lizards to tool-utilizing capuchins and even the ominous venus flytrap will keep you planted.

STEVE GOW

Documentary

Payback

Director. Jennifer Baichwal

Stars. Margaret Atwood

●●●●○

Based on Margaret Atwood's Massey Lecture series about debt, on paper Payback sounds like about as much fun as watching paint dry. But Manufactured Landscapes director Jennifer Baichwal is able to turn Atwood's words into a highly enjoyable set of present-day vignettes about debt as social phenomenon, be it monetary, moral or even environmental. Baichwal and cinematographer partner Nick de Pencier dig up some fascinating subjects.

IAN GORMELY

Comedy

Sisters & Brothers

Director. Carl Bessai

Stars. Cory Monteith, Gabrielle Miller

●●○○○

Sisters & Brothers, the third and apparently final installment of director Carl Bessai's family relationships series, tackles the often-complicated interactions between siblings. Through four interweaving stories, Bessai and his cast explore different shades of these complications. Yet in spite of an improvised script and some fine acting, particularly in the story of Corner Gas's Gabrielle Miller, each story feels rote and clichéd.

IAN GORMELY

Quoted

"The approach to that kind of work is so exciting and fascinating and very different from the kind of projects and the way I'd approached my work before that...

"It was wonderful and scary too."

Former Corner Gas cast member Gabrielle Miller,
On working on director Carl Bessai's new film Sisters & Brothers. He discussed the character relationships with the actors, but allowed them to perform without a script.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Will Lily Collins (daughter of Phil) live up to being the fairest of them all?

Mirror Mirror. Young actress talks about her new role, and giving the beloved Snow White story some modern twists

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

Lily Collins faces quite the tall order with director Tarsem Singh's Mirror, Mirror — namely, putting a non-animated face and an updated spin on perhaps the most classic of fairy tales, Snow White and the Seven Dwarves. But it's a challenge she's been happy to tackle. Even with a competing Snow White film grabbing for headlines and a presidential election looming — Collins (a.k.a. singer Phil's daughter) covered the 2008 race for Nickelodeon — she is working hard to keep her focus where she wants it.

Did you ever think, in playing a fairy tale princess, that you'd get to do an action movie training montage?
No! I mean, it was written in the script that she meets the dwarves and there would be sword fighting, but the script changed so much during filming that this montage, when it was added, I thought, "This is going to be so much fun to shoot." It took a long time to shoot, but when it's all cut together with the music, it's just so fun. And I never thought that I'd be sword-fighting and fencing and learning all these cool stunts. You sign on to do a princess; you don't think she's going to be fighting in it.

It is an interesting update. Fairy tales traditionally aren't great for the their female characters — lots of sitting around and pining, waiting to be rescued.
And that's what we did not want. We didn't want to take the animation and just make it live-action. We wanted to take it and have a reason to redo it. In today's day and age, girls are very empowered to do the same things that guys do. And young girls want to see movies that show people that they admire are not needing the prince as much as they used to — or the fact that a princess can save a prince just as much as a prince can save a princess.

Mirror Mirror opens next Friday. HANDOUT

How was it playing opposite Armie Hammer with these new takes on Snow White and Prince Charming?
It was fun because we both agreed from the get-go it's a very Katherine Hepburn and Spencer Tracy back-and-forth — not just the physicality of the sword-fighting but the physicality of the language because it is so back and forth, and we're both trying to one-up each other in conversations. It was very playful.

There's that other Snow White movie coming out in June. How much were you aware of the competing project?
I think it was known before we even started that there were these two projects. Aesthetically and with the storyline, they're so different. And the advertising has shown that so far. I think more of the struggle was just this whole, like, who's coming out first kind of a thing and making sure there's enough time in between so that everyone's not overloaded with the fairy tale. But that never really trickled down to us on set, I think.

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Director Carl Bessai will be at the theatre tonight for a Q&A after the 7:00 pm screening.
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a comedy about getting to know someone you thought you knew your whole life.
cory MONTEITH
amanda CREW
dustin MILLIGAN
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OMNIMAX Theatre Science World 1455 Quebec St., 604-443-7443

Arabia (STC) Fri-Sun 1-3
Dinosaurs Alive! (STC) Fri-Sun 12-2-4
Hubble (STC) Fri-Sun 5

Denman Cinemas 1779 Comox, 604-558-3456

9-11: Explosive Evidence, Experts Speak Out (STC) Sat 9
The Descendants (PG) Fri 2-7 Sat-Sun 12-2 Mon-Tue 2-7 Wed-Thu 2
In the Land of Blood and Honey (STC) Fri-Sun 4:20 Mon-Wed 4:20-9:10 Thu 4:20
Leaving Mandela Park (STC) Thu 7:30
Searching for Emily (STC) Sat 7
A Single Man (PG) Wed 7

Dunbar Theatre 4555 Dunbar Street, 604-222-2991

The Hunger Games (PG) Fri-Sun 12:30-3:30-7-9:50 Mon-Thu 5-8:15

Fifth Avenue Cinemas 2110 Burrard Street, 604-734-7469

The 400 Blows (STC) A.M. Sat 10
Dr. Seuss' the Lorax 3D (G) Fri-Thu 1
Jeff, Who Lives at Home (PG) Fri-Wed 3-5-7:30-9:40 Thu 3-5-9:40
One Life (G) Fri-Thu 1:15-4:15-7:10-9:10
Payback: Debt and the Shadow Side of Wealth (G) Fri-Thu 1:30-4:45-7:20-9:30
Pina 3D (G) Fri-Thu 1:45-4-6:50-9
Salmon Fishing in the Yemen (PG) Fri-Thu 2-4:30-7-9:20

Granville 855 Granville St., 604-684-4000

Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked (G) Fri 4 Footloose (PG) Fri 4:10
The Iron Lady (PG) Fri 6:55-9:40 Sat-Sun 4:15-6:55-9:40 Mon-Thu 6-8:35
Mission: Impossible — Ghost Protocol (PG) Fri 6:35-9:20 Sat-Sun 3:55-6:35-9:20 Mon-Thu 5:40-8:30
Monsieur Lazhar (STC) Fri 7-9:30 Sat-Sun 4:25-7-9:30 Mon-Thu 5:55-8:20
Pariah (14A) Fri 6:30-9:35 Sat-Sun 4:05-6:30-9:35 Mon-Thu 3:15-5:30-8:15
Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy (14A) Fri 6:40-9:25 Sat-Sun 4-6:40-9:25 Mon-Wed 5:35-8:10
The Vow (PG) Fri 6:50-9:15 Sat-Sun 4:20-6:50-9:15 Mon-Thu 5:50-8:40
We Need to Talk About Kevin (14A) Fri 6:45-9:10 Sat-Sun 4:10-6:45-9:10 Mon-Thu 5:45-8:25

Pacific Cinémathèque 1131 Howe Street, 604-688-3456

Boot Polish (STC) Sat 3
Jis Desh Mein Ganga Behti Hai (STC) Sun 6:30 Mera Naam Joker (STC) Wed 6:30
No Films Showing Today (STC) Tue
Ram Teri Ganga Maili (STC) Mon 6:30
Satyam Shivam Sundaram (STC) Sat 6:30 Sun 3
Shree 420 (STC) Fri 6:30
Zakir and His Friends: A Rhythm Experience (STC) Thu 7

Park Theatre 3440 Cambie Street, 604-876-2747

The Hunger Games (PG) Fri-Sun 1-4-7-9:55 Mon-Thu 4-7-9:55

Ridge Theatre 3131 Arbutus Street, 604-738-6311

The Iron Lady (PG) Fri 4-7-9:15 Sat-Sun 1:45-4-7-9:15 Mon-Thu 4-7-9:15

Rio on Broadway 1660 E. Broadway, 604-878-Film

The Big Lebowski (14A) Sun 3
No Films Showing Today (STC) Fri Mon-Thu
The Room (STC) Sat 3

Scotiabank Theatre Vancouver 900 Burrard St., 604-630-1407

21 Jump Street (14A) Fri-Sat 11:50-12:10-2:30-2:45-5:10-5:30-7:50-8:10-10:30-10:50 Sun 11:50-12:10-2:30-5:10-5:30-7:50-8:10-10:30-10:45 Mon 1:10-2:30-3:50-5:10-7-7:50-10:30 Tue-Wed 1:45-2:30-4:30-5:10-7:20-7:50-10-10:30 Thu 1:05-2:30-3:50-5:10-7-7:50-10:30
The Hunger Games (PG) Fri-Sat 12:15-12:50-3:30-4:10-7-7:30-10:15-10:45 Sun 12:15-12:45-3:30-4-6:50-7:15-10:05-10:30 Mon-Tue 12:30-12:45-3:40-4-6:50-7:15-10:05-10:30 Wed-Thu 12:30-12:45-3:40-4-7:15-10:05-10:30 Fri-Sat 11:40-12-1:30-2:50-3:15-4:45-6-6:30-8-9:15-9:45 Sun 11:40-1:30-2:50-3:15-4:45-6-6:30-8-9:15-9:45 Mon 12-1:30-2:40-3:15-4:45-6-8-9:15-9:45 Tue-Wed 12-1:30-2:40-3:15-4:45-6-6:30-8-9:15-9:45 Thu 12-1:30-2:40-3:15-4:45-6-6:30-8-9:15
John Carter 3D (PG) Fri-Sat 1:20-4:25-7:40-11 Sun-Thu 1-4-7:10-10:20
The Metropolitan Opera: The Enchanted Island Encore (STC) Mon 6:30
She Stoops to Conquer (STC) Thu 7
Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory (G) Sun 1
Wrath of the Titans 3D (14A) Thu 10

Vancity Theatre Vancouver International Film Centre 1181 Seymour Street, 604-683-Film

Mystery Train (STC) Sun 8:10
No Films Showing Today (STC) Fri-Sat Tue-Thu
Stranger Than Paradise (STC) Sun 6:30
Turandot (STC) Sun 2:30 Mon 7

North Shore

Esplanade 6 200 West Esplanade, 604-983-2762

The Adventures of Tintin (PG) Fri 1:10-3:50
Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked (G) Fri 1:15-4
The Artist (G) Fri-Thu 7:10-9:40
Happy Feet Two (G) Fri 12:40-3:15
The Iron Lady (PG) Fri 7-9:30 Sat-Sun 12:40-3:15-7-9:30 Mon-Thu 7-9:30
John Carter (PG) Fri-Sun 12:30 Mon-Thu 6:30-9:35 Fri-Sun 3:25-6:30-9:35
Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (G) Fri-Sun 1 Mon-Wed 6:40-9:15 Thu 6:40 Fri-Sun 3:30-6:40-9:15
Safe House (PG) Sat-Sun 12:50-3:40-6:45-9:45 Mon-Thu 6:45-9:45
A Thousand Words (PG) Sat-Sun 1:10-3:50
The Vow (PG) Fri 6:50-9:20 Sat-Sun 1:15-4-6:50-9:20 Mon-Thu 6:50-9:20
Wrath of the Titans (14A) Thu 10

Park & Tilford 333 Brooksbank Ave., 604-985-3911

21 Jump Street (14A) Fri-Sun 1-4-7-9:30 Mon-Thu 7-9:40 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Dr. Seuss' the Lorax (G) Fri-Sun 1:05
Dr. Seuss' the Lorax 3D (G) Fri-Sun 3:20-7:10-9:20 Mon-Thu 6:45-9:20
The Hunger Games (PG) Fri-Sun 12:15-1:15-3:15-4:15-6:30-7:20-9:40-10:20 Mon-Wed 6:50-7:10-9:50-10:10 Thu 6:50-9:50-10:10 Fri-Sun 12:45-3:45-6:50-10 Mon-Thu 6:30-9:30 Star & Strollers Screening, Thu 1
Salmon Fishing in the Yemen (PG) Fri-Sun 12:30-3:30-6:40-9:10 Mon-Thu 6:40-9:10
She Stoops to Conquer (STC) Thu 7

Richmond

SilverCity Riverport 14211 Entertainment Way, 604-272-7280

21 Jump Street (14A) Fri-Tue 12:30-1:20-3:35-4:30-6:45-7:20-9:55-10:20 Wed 12:30-1:20-3:35-4:30-7:20-9:55-10:20 Thu 12:30-3:35-4:30-6:45-7:20-9:55-10:20 Star & Strollers Screening Thu 1
Act of Valor (14A) Fri-Sat 12:55-4:20-7:25-10:25 Sun 4:20-7:25-10:25 Mon-Wed 12:55-4:20-7:25-10:25 Thu 12:55-4:20-10:25 Agent Vinod (STC) Fri-Thu 12:20-4:15-7:50 Dr. Seuss' the Lorax (G) Fri-Thu 12:45-3:15-6
Dr. Seuss' the Lorax 3D (G) Fri-Thu 12-2:10-4:20-6:30-8:45
Friends With Kids (14A) Fri-Wed 1:05-3:55-7:45-10:30 Thu 1:05-3:55-10:30 The Hunger Games (PG) Fri-Sun 12:25-12:50-3:50-4:10-7-7:30-10:15-10:45 Mon-Wed 12:25-12:45-3:50-4-7-7:15-10:15-10:30 Thu 12:25-12:40-3:50-4-7-7:15-10:15-10:30 Fri 11:40-12-1:30-2-2:50-3:20-4:45-5:15-6-6:30-8-8:30-9:15-9:45-11:15-11:45 Sat 11:40-12-1:30-2-2:50-3:20-4:45-5:15-6-6:30-8-8:30-9:15-9:45-11:15 Sun 11:40-12-1:30-2-2:50-3:20-4:45-5:15-6-6:30-8-8:30-9:15-9:45 Mon-Wed 12-1:30-2-2:50-3:20-4:45-5:15-6-6:30-8-8:30-9:15-9:45 Thu 12-2-2:50-3:20-4:45-5:15-6-6:30-8-8:30-9:15-9:45 Star & Strollers Screening, Thu 1
John Carter (PG) Fri-Sun 11:45-3:10-6:35-10:05 Mon-Thu 12:05-3:10-6:35-10:05
John Carter 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 12:15-3:45-7:10-10:35
Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (G) Fri-Thu 12:40-4:05
Project X (18A) Fri-Thu 7:15-10
Safe House (PG) Fri-Thu 12:35-3:55-7:05-10:10
She Stoops to Conquer (STC) Thu 7
Stuart Little (G) Sat 11
The Vow (PG) Fri-Wed 9
Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory (G) Sun 1

Burnaby

Dolphin Cinemas 4555 E. Hastings St., 604-293-0332

Dr. Seuss' the Lorax (G) Fri-Sun 1-3-5-6:50-8:45 Mon-Thu 5-6:50-8:45
The Hunger Games (PG) Fri-Sun 1:15-4-6:45-9:30 Mon-Thu 4-6:45-9:30

SilverCity Metropolis 4700 Kingsway Ave., 604-435-7474

21 Jump Street (14A) Fri-Sun 12:10-2:50-5:30-8:10-10:50 Mon-Wed 2:50-5:30-8:10-10:45 Thu 2:30-5:15-8-10:45
Dr. Seuss' the Lorax (G) Fri 10:50-1:10-3:30-5:50-8:10 Sat-Thu 1:10-3:30-5:50-8:10 Dr. Seuss' the Lorax 3D (G) Fri-Sun 12-2:10-4:20-6:30-8:45 Mon-Thu 2:10-4:20-6:30-8:45
The Hunger Games (PG) Fri-Sat 11:40-12-12:25-2:50-3:20-3:50-6-6:30-7-9:15-9:45-10:15 Sun 12-12:25-1:15-3:20-3:50-4:15-6:30-7-7:30-9:45-10:15-10:45 Mon-Thu 12:30-12:45-1:15-3:35-3:50-4:15-6:45-7-7:30-10-10:15-10:45 Fri-Sat 9:45-12:50-4:10-7:30-10:45 Sun-Thu 1-4-7:15-10:30

Station Square 220-6200 McKay Ave., 604-434-7711

Act of Valor (14A) Fri 4:25-7-9:45 Sat 1:45-4:25-7-9:45 Sun 1:45-4:25-7 Mon-Thu 4:25-7
Dr. Seuss' the Lorax (G) Fri 4:15-6:50-9:25 Sat 2-4:15-6:50-9:25 Sun 2-4:15-6:50 Mon-Thu 4:15-6:50
The Secret World of Arrietty (G) Fri 4:35 Sat-Sun 2:10-4:35 Mon-Thu 4:35
This Means War (PG) Fri 4:45-7:20-9:55 Sat 1:55-4:45-7:20-9:55 Sun 1:55-4:45-7:20 Mon-Thu 4:45-7:20
A Thousand Words (PG) Fri 4:40-7:10-9:30 Sat 2:15-4:40-7:10-9:30 Sun 2:15-4:40-7:10 Mon-Thu 4:40-7:10
UnOfficially Yours (PG) Fri 4:20-6:55-9:40 Sat 1:50-4:20-6:55-9:40 Sun 1:50-4:20-6:55 Mon-Thu 4:20-6:55
The Vow (PG) Fri 4:30-7:15-9:50 Sat 2:05-4:30-7:15-9:50 Sun 2:05-4:30-7:15 Mon-Thu 4:30-7:15
Wanderlust (14A) Fri-Sat 7:05-9:35 Sun-Thu 7:05

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New West/ Coquitlam

SilverCity Coquitlam
170 Schoolhouse Street, 604-523-2911

21 Jump Street (14A) Fri-Tue 1:10-4-7-10 Wed 4-7-10 Thu 1:10-4-7-10 Fri-Thu 1:30-4:20-7:20-10:10 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Act of Valor (14A) Fri-Wed 9:50
Dr. Seuss' the Lorax (G) Fri-Thu 12:05-2:30-5:20-7:40
Dr. Seuss' the Lorax 3D (G) Fri-Thu 1:10-3:30-5:50-8:10-10:25
Friends With Kids (14A) Fri-Thu 12:10-2:50-5:25-7:55-10:35 Fri-Thu 1-4-6:40-9:20
The Hunger Games (PG) Fri-Sat 2-5:15-8:30-11:45 Sun-Thu 2-5:15-8:30 Fri-Sat 11:50-12:15-1:30-3:20-3:50-4:45-6:30-7:05-8-9:45-10:15-11:15 Sun 11:50-12:15-1:30-3:20-3:50-4:45-6:30-7:05-8-9:45-10:15 Mon-Tue 12:15-1:30-3:20-3:50-4:45-6:30-7:05-8-9:45-10:15 Wed 12:15-3:20-3:50-4:45-6:30-7:05-8-9:45-10:15 Thu 12:15-1:30-3:20-3:50-4:45-6:30-7:05-8-9:45-10:15 Fri-Sun 11:45-12:40-3-3:45-6:20-7-9:40-10:30 Mon-Thu 12-12:40-3-3:45-6:20-7-9:40-10:30 Fri-Sat 9:45-12:50-4:10-7:30-10:45 Sun-Thu 12:45-4-7:15-10:30 Star & Strollers Screening, Wed 1
John Carter (PG) Fri-Thu 12:20-1-3:30-4:25-6:45-7:35-9:55-10:40
John Carter 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 1:20-4:40-7:50-10:50
Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (G) Fri-Thu 1:15
Journey 2: The Mysterious Island 3D (G) Fri-Thu 4-6:30
Project X (18A) Fri-Sat 2:15-4:50-7:10-9:30 Sun 4:50-7:10-9:30 Mon-Wed 2:15-4:50-7:10-9:30 Thu 2:15-4:50-10:45 Safe House (PG) Fri-Thu 1:50-4:35-7:45-10:40
Salmon Fishing in the Yemen (PG) Fri-Thu 1:10-3:50-6:40-9:25
She Stoops to Conquer (STC) Thu 7
Stuart Little (G) Sat 11
The Vow (PG) Fri-Thu 10
Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory (G) Sun 1
Wrath of the Titans 3D (14A) Thu 10:15

Surrey/White Rock/ Langley

Clova
5732-176th St., Surrey, 604-541-9527

The Artist (G) Fri-Thu 7
Dr. Seuss' the Lorax (G) Fri-Sun 1:30-4
Safe House (PG) Fri-Thu 8:55

Hollywood 3 Cinema
7125-138th Street, Surrey, 604-592-4441

Act of Valor (14A) Fri-Thu 4:50-9:10
The Adventures of Tintin (PG) Fri-Sun 12:45 Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chip-wrecked (G) Fri-Sun 12:45
Big Miracle (G) Fri-Sun 2:50
Goon (18A) Fri-Thu 8:55
Hugo (G) Fri-Sun 12:25
Safe House (PG) Fri-Thu 6:45
The Secret World of Arrietty (G) Fri-Sun 2:50-4:45 Mon-Thu 4:45
The Vow (PG) Fri-Thu 4:55-6:55
Wanderlust (14A) Fri-Thu 8:55
We Bought a Zoo (PG) Fri-Sun 2:30-6:50 Mon-Thu 6:50

Strawberry Hill Grande
12161-72nd Ave, Surrey, 604-501-9400

21 Jump Street (14A) Fri-Tue 12:05-2:40-5:30-8:10-10:45 Wed 5:30-8:10-10:45 Thu 12:05-2:40-5:30-8:10-10:45 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 1
Agent Vinod (STC) Fri-Thu 12:05-3:25-7:05-10:30
Dr. Seuss' the Lorax (G) Fri-Thu 1:10
Dr. Seuss' the Lorax 3D (G) Fri-Thu 3:30-5:45-8:05-10:25
Friends With Kids (14A) Fri-Thu 12:10-2:55-5:25-8-10:30
The Hunger Games (PG) Fri-Sat 12-12:25-12:50-1:30-3:20-3:50-4:10-4:45-6:30-7-7:30-8-9:45-10:15-10:45-11:15 Sun 12-12:25-12:50-1:30-3:20-3:50-4:10-4:45-6:30-7-7:30-8-9:45-10:15-10:45 Mon 12-12:25-12:45-1:30-3:20-3:50-4-4:45-6:30-7-7:15-8-9:45-10:15-10:30 Tue 12-12:25-12:50-1:30-3:20-3:50-4:10-4:45-6:30-7-7:30-8-9:45-10:15-10:45 Wed 12-12:25-12:45-3:20-3:50-4-4:45-6:30-7-7:15-8-9:45-10:15-10:30 Thu 12-12:25-12:45-1:30-3:20-3:50-4-4:45-6:30-7-7:15-8-9:45-10:15-10:30 Fri-Sun 11:40-2:50-6-9:15 Mon-Thu 2:50-6-9:15 Star & Strollers Screening, Wed 1
John Carter (PG) Fri-Thu 1:20
John Carter 3D (PG) Fri-Thu 4:20-7:20-10:40
Journey 2: The Mysterious Island 3D (G) Fri-Thu 12:20-3-5:20-7:45
Kahaani (PG) Fri-Thu 12:30-4:15-7:15-10:20
Project X (18A) Fri-Wed 10:40
Stuart Little (G) Sat 11
Wrath of the Titans 3D (14A) Thu 10:40

Studio 12 Guildford
15051-101st Ave, Surrey, 604-581-1176

21 Jump Street (14A) Dolby Stereo Digital, Fri-Sun 12:30-4:30-7:15-10 , Mon 5:45-8:30 , Tue 4:30-7:15-10 , Wed-Thu 5:45-8:30
Agent Vinod (STC) , Fri-Sun 11:55-4:15-8 , Mon 5:05-8:35 , Tue 4:15-8 , Wed-Thu 5:05-8:35
Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked (G) , Fri 1:10-4:10
Dr. Seuss' the Lorax (G) , Fri-Sun 1-3:45-7:20-9:30 , Mon 5:40-8:20 , Tue 3:45-7:20-9:30 , Wed-Thu 5:40-8:20
Dr. Seuss' the Lorax 3D (G) , Fri-Sun 11:30-2:45-6:15-8:45 , Mon 5-7:45 , Tue 2:45-6:15-8:45 , Wed-Thu 5-7:45
Happy Feet Two (G) , Fri 1:20-4:20
The Hunger Games (PG) , Fri-Sun 11:45-12:15-12:45-1:30-3-3:25-4-4:45-6:30-7-7:45-9-9:45-10:15 , Mon 4:45-5:30-6:30-7:15-8-8:45 , Tue 3-3:25-4-4:45-6:30-7-7:45-9-9:45-10:15 , Wed-Thu 4:45-5:30-6:30-7:15-8-8:45
John Carter 3D (PG) , Fri-Sun 12-3:15-6:45-10:05 , Mon 5:15-8:15 , Tue 3:15-6:45-10:05 , Wed-Thu 5:15-8:15
Project X (18A) , Fri 7:55-10:20 , Sat-Sun 1:20-4:20-7:55-10:20 , Mon 5:50-8:25 , Tue 4:20-7:55-10:20 , Wed-Thu 5:50-8:25
Safe House (PG) , Fri 6:40-9:20 , Sat-Sun 1:10-4:10-6:40-9:20 , Mon 4:55-7:30 , Tue 4:10-6:40-9:20 , Wed-Thu 4:55-7:30
A Thousand Words (PG) , Fri-Mon 12:55-3:40-7:20-9:25 , Tue 3:40-7:20-9:25 , Wed-Thu 12:55-3:40-7:20-9:25

Rialto
1732-152nd Street, White Rock, 604-541-9527

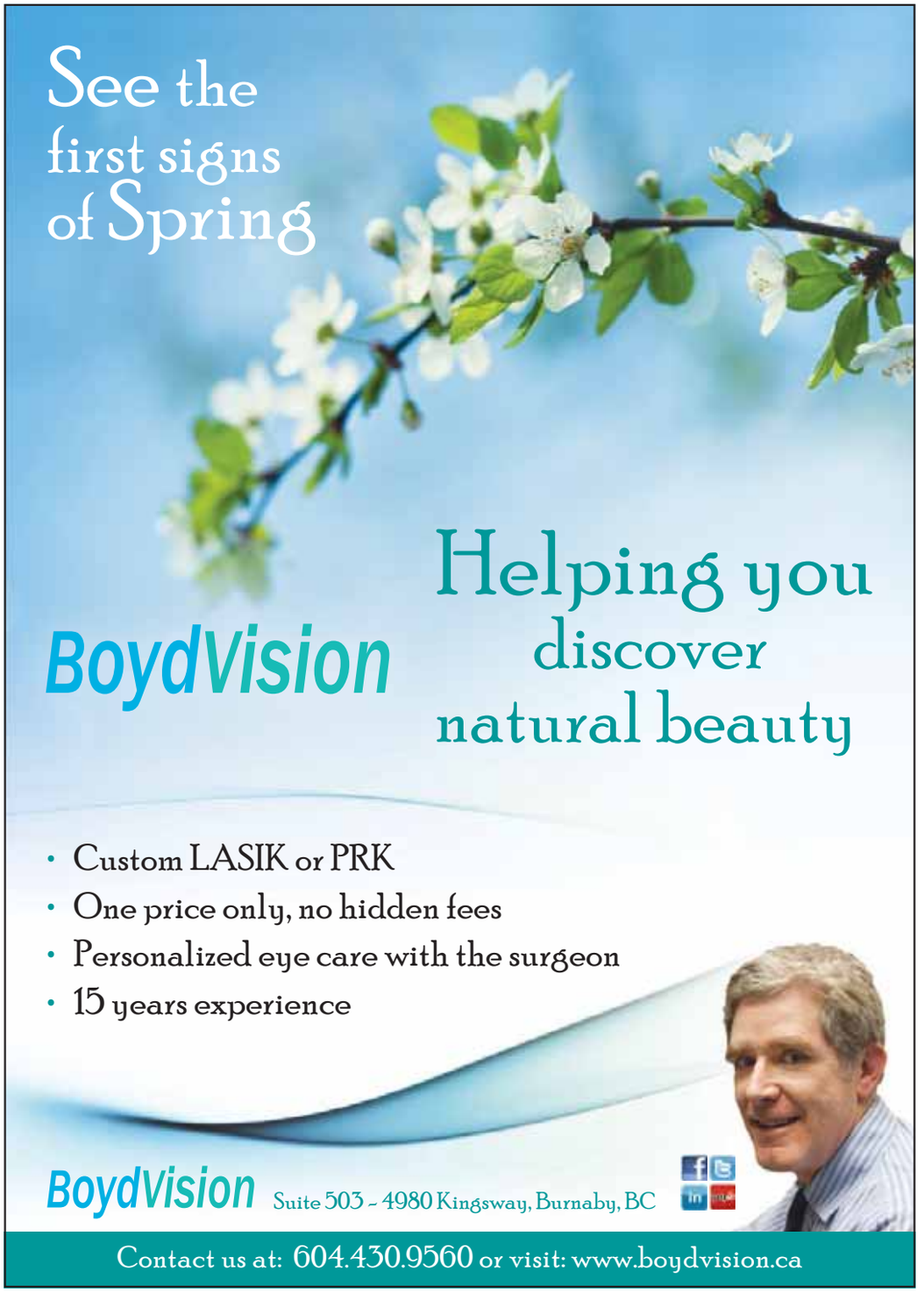
The Descendants (PG) Fri 7:10-9:15 Sat-Sun 2:10-7:10-9:15 Mon-Thu 7:10-9:15
Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy (14A) Fri 7-9:20 Sat-Sun 2-7-9:20 Mon-Thu 7-9:20

Criterion 4 White Rock
2381 King George Highway, 604-531-7456

21 Jump Street (14A) Fri-Sun 2:20-7:15-9:30 Mon-Thu 7:15-9:30
Dr. Seuss' the Lorax (G) Fri-Sun 2:30-7:30-9:20 Mon-Thu 7:30-9:20
The Hunger Games (PG) Fri-Sun 2-6:45-9:35 Mon-Thu 6:45-9:35
John Carter (PG) Fri-Sun 2:10-7-9:25 Mon-Thu 7-9:25

Colossus Langwley
20090-91A Ave, Langley

21 Jump Street (14A) Fri-Sun 11:45-12:15-2:20-2:50-4:55-5:30-7:45-8:15-10:20-10:55 Mon 3:35-4:15-7:15-7:50-10:10-10:45 Tue 3:50-4:45-7-7:30-10:10-10:45 Wed 4:45-7-7:30-10:10-10:45 Thu 3:30-4:10-7-7:30-10:10-10:45 Star & Strollers Screening Wed 3
Act of Valor (14A) Fri-Sun 10:30 Mon-Thu 9:50
Dr. Seuss' the Lorax (G) Fri-Sun 12:10-2:30-4:40-7:25 Mon-Thu 4:30-7:05
Dr. Seuss' the Lorax 3D (G) Fri 1:10-3:30-5:50-8:10-10:25 Sat 11:05-1:10-3:30-5:50-8:10-10:25 Sun 1:10-3:30-5:50-8:10-10:25 Mon-Thu 3:10-5:25-7:35-9:55
Friends With Kids (14A) Fri-Sun 12:20-2:45-5:25-7:55-10:30 Mon-Thu 4:20-7:05-10:15
The Hunger Games (PG) Fri-Sat 12:50-4:10-7:30-10:45 Sun 12:45-4-7:15-10:30 Mon-Thu 4-7:15-10:30 Fri 11:30-12-12:25-1:30-2-2:55-3:20-3:50-4:45-5:15-6-6:30-7-8-8:30-9:15-9:45-10:15-11:15 Sat 11-11:30-12-12:25-1:30-2:15-2:55-3:20-3:50-4:45-5:30-6-6:30-7-8-9-9:15-9:45-10:15-11:15 Sun 11:30-12-12:25-1:30-2-2:55-3:20-3:50-4:45-5:15-6-6:30-7-8-8:30-9:15-9:45-10:15 Mon-Tue 3-3:20-3:40-4:30-5-6:10-6:35-6:55-7:45-8:15-9:30-10-10:15-10:45 Wed 3:20-3:40-4:30-5-6:10-6:35-6:55-7:45-8:15-9:30-10-10:15-10:45 Thu 3-3:20-3:40-4:30-5-6:10-6:35-6:55-7:45-8:15-9:30-10-10:15-10:45 Star & Strollers Screening, Wed 3
John Carter (PG) Fri-Sun 12:45-3:55-7:05-10:10 Mon-Thu 3:55-7-10
John Carter 3D (PG) Fri-Sun 1:20-4:25-7:35-10:40 Mon-Thu 4:25-7:30-10:40
Journey 2: The Mysterious Island (G) Fri-Sun 12:30
Journey 2: The Mysterious Island 3D (G) Fri-Sun 2:50-5:20-7:40 Mon-Thu 4:40-7:25
The Metropolitan Opera: The Enchanted Island Encore (STC) Mon 6:30
Project X (18A) Fri 1:35-3:45-6:10-8:25-10:50 Sat 11:10-1:35-3:45-6:10-8:25-10:50 Sun 3:45-6:10-8:25-10:50 Mon 4:45-7:55-10:20 Tue 4:55-7:55-10:20 Wed 4:55-10:20 Thu 4:55-7:55-10:20
Safe House (PG) Fri-Sun 2:05-4:50-7:40-10:35 Mon 4:50-10:35 Tue-Wed 4:50-7:40-10:35 Thu 4:50-10:35
Salmon Fishing in the Yemen (PG) Fri-Sun 11:55-2:35-5:10-7:50-10:25 Mon-Thu 4:35-7:10-10:25
She Stoops to Conquer (STC) Thu 7
Stuart Little (G) Sat 11
This Means War (PG) Fri-Sun 10:35 Mon-Wed 10:05
Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory (G) Sun 1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Can Oprah be a team player?

Oprah Winfrey GEORGE BURNS/OWN

TV Network.
OWN shakeup has brought on some big changes

Oprah Winfrey is used to running the show, whether it was her hit daytime TV program or the fledgling cable channel named for her and which she rules as chairman and chief executive.

But this week's Oprah Winfrey Network shakeup, which included a 20 per cent staff layoff, thrusts her into a new dynamic: power-sharing with a top executive from the company that's bankrolled OWN with $300 million-plus.

It's a crucial moment for the media queen, who made OWN her next big move after The Oprah Winfrey Show, and for OWN itself: Can Winfrey work as an effective corporate teammate with partner Discovery Communications to turn the struggling channel around?

There's another bedrock question: Does a big enough audience exist for the earnest, uplifting fare on Winfrey's OWN, so antithetical to the blowsy charms of Jersey Shore, Keeping Up With the Kardashians and much else that's popular on cable TV? In Canada, the OWN brand is licensed and operated by media company Corus Entertainment Inc. and mirrors much of the U.S. cable channel's programming schedule.

As important as control might be to Winfrey, she's also a savvy businesswoman and has been willing to take advice before — and not just from Dr. Oz, Dr. Phil or her other TV health and wealth protégés. Her syndicated talk show's distributor made sure she stayed on track.

"In the past, when she was becoming too 'New Age,' or becoming too distant, which can come with celebrity and wealth, the folks at King World would do a survey," and pass the results to her, said Bill Carroll, an expert in the syndication market for media consulting firm Katz Media.

As a smart broadcaster, Winfrey heard the public "and adjusted to what they were saying," Carroll said.

Winfrey started off slowly with OWN, busy wrapping her talk show's 25-year run last fall with much hoopla. She began exerting more control after leaving daytime, and as part of the executive turnover that began five months after OWN's January 2011 debut to disappointing ratings.

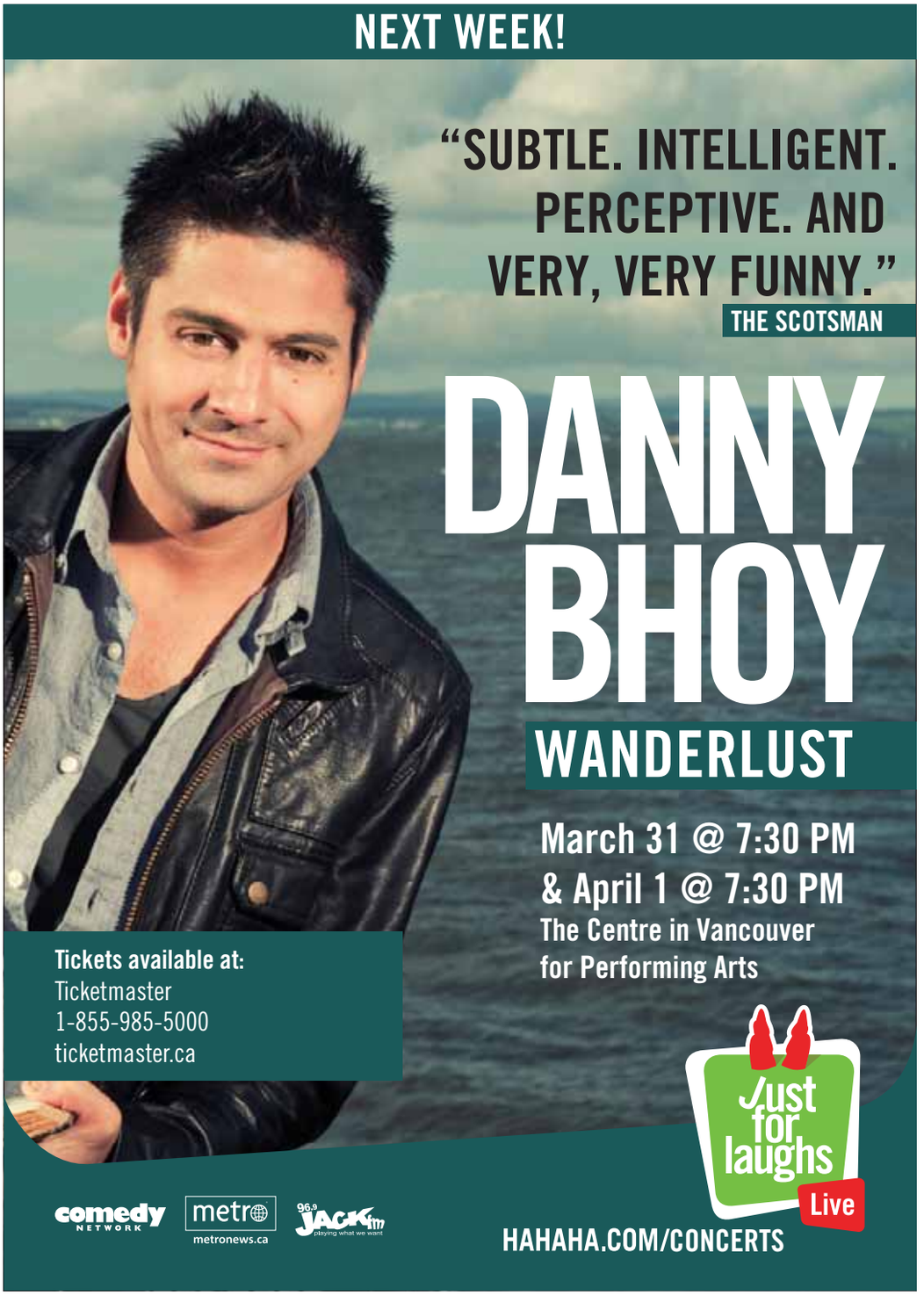
Christina Norman, who was dismissed as CEO in May 2011, had expressed hope that, within its first year, OWN would reach an average of about 400,000 viewers in prime-time among women ages 25 to 54.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

By the numbers

318,000

For the year to date, OWN is averaging 318,000 total viewers in prime-time in the United States, a nine per cent increase over the same period last year.



Guitarist Slash Poses for a photograph in Toronto. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

10 questions for Slash

The former Guns 'N Roses man speaks out. Talks about his new album, his love of Canadians and how his pet snake likes music

ALAN CROSS
scene@metronews.ca

For a Guns 'N Roses survivor — and someone who's been saved by defibrillator paddles three times — Slash looks awfully healthy sitting in his Toronto hotel suite on the eve of Canadian Music Week (CMW).

You must like coming up for this event.
I love coming up here —twice in three years — but the timing for CMW is just something that sorta happens.

This album is billed as Slash featuring Myles Kennedy and the Conspirators. Why?
The first solo record I did was called Slash but when we took the band on the road, I called it Slash featuring Myles Kennedy (Slash's singer).

That became a bigger event than I expected. So when I thought about doing another record with Brent (Fitz, drummer) and Todd (Kearns, bassist, ex of Age of Electric), I needed to give some kind of credit to the guys who were the backline.

Quote

"Ian has a great voice and he did an audition for Velvet Revolver."
Slash
Speaking about Ian Thornley.

You seem to have a thing for hiring Canadians for your band.
Brent is from Ottawa, or Toronto?

He's gonna kill me. And Todd is from Vancouver. He's a great singer, too.

Tell me about Ian Thornley.
Ian has a great voice and he did an audition for Velvet Revolver. The catch was he wanted to play guitar.

You recently appeared on the U.K. edition of Top Gear. How was that?
It was OK although I couldn't get the hang of the left-hand stick in the rain. The Stig couldn't understand why I had issues.

How did the commercials for the Los Angeles Zoo with Betty White come about?
Me and Betty are on the board for the zoo. There's a new reptile exhibit and I'm a big reptile guy. We just thought it would be fun.

You got to play at Muhammed Ali's 70th birthday celebration.
That was a tremendous honour. He's one of my idols.

You've done some recording with Steve Adler (GNR drummer in the Appetite for Destruction era).
I got him to play on my record and I promised that if he'd stay clean, I'd play on his.

Word is that your snake, Sam, really likes the new album, Apocalyptic Love (due May 22).
The first time through he just lay there. The second time he was all over the cage. So I figure he either digs it or wants to move.

The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Induction ceremony: what's going to happen?
I don't know. I'm just going to show up.

A universal question: Is it Friday yet?

Country music album hitting home with Canadians. Gord Bamford's feel-good anthem hitting stride

Gord Bamford stands behind the bar at The Crazy Horse in Ottawa. He sings about waiting for an "ice-cold beer" in his song Is It Friday Yet? But Bamford said his drink of choice is vodka. JESSICA SMITH / METRO

JESSICA SMITH
Metro in Ottawa

Whether you're touring country musician Gord Bamford or an office-tower type, you probably know the feeling: you're working so dang hard you're not even sure if it's Friday yet.

The title track of Canadian country singer Bamford's latest album, Is It Friday Yet? has hit home with all kinds of Canadians, he said Tuesday while preparing for a small private show in Ottawa.

"I'm definitely going to be getting that question the rest of my life," he said.

"It doesn't matter if you're in an office tower in Toronto or Ottawa or a tractor in some rural community, everybody can't wait for the weekend."

When he's not on tour, Bamford is waiting for the weekend so he can spend time with his three kids, he said. Bamford grew up with country music in Lacombe, Alta.

He got a start by winning the Nornet Radio Network's Search for the Stars, a much lower-profile competition than the reality TV competitions of today, he said.

"They're definitely creating a lot of stars out of reality television these days," he said.

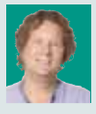
"Some people are getting an opportunity they never would I guess if they were doing it the hard way, coming up through the trenches."

Despite his radio competition win, Bamford says he worked hard playing shows at small bars on his way up, something that shows in the subject matter and success of Is It Friday Yet?

"It's just a feel-good anthem song that's done real good for us so far," he said.

Sound Check

How much can I earn as a YouTube musician?



SOUND CHECK
Alan Cross
scene@metronews.ca

I've been following the progress of Burlington, Ontario's Walk Off the Earth ever since they posted their five people/one guitar performance of Gotye's Somebody That I Used to Know back in January. As I write this, the video has been viewed 74,423,421 times. That's about one-tenth the number of people who have seen Justin Bieber's Baby, but it's still a magnificent achievement, especially for an indie band.

If you've watched any music video on YouTube, you'll have seen the ads that come with each one. YouTube is the world's largest streamer of music and these ads have allowed it to monetize what many once believed was un-monetizable.

I was curious about what this means in financial terms to artists like Walk Off the Earth, so I talked to some people in the industry who know how such things work. Let's try to estimate things, shall we? YouTube's payment rate is approximately $2.50 CPM, which means for every one thousand views of a video, it pays out $2.50 US. YouTube keeps 50 per cent of all revenues. Fifteen per cent goes to the rights holder of the song (the publisher/copyright holder) while the remaining amount — 35 per cent — goes to the performer. Now let's do the math. First, divide 74.5 million views by 1,000 to get the CPM number. Multiply that number (74,500) by $2.50 and you have total gross advertising revenues of $186,250. Of that, YouTube keeps half, which is $93,125. The rest is divided between the publisher (15 per cent of $186,250 or about $28,000; Gotye gets a piece of this) and the band (35 per cent of $186,250 or a shade over $65,000). Finally, divide that amount amongst the five members of the band and you have earnings of $13,000 each.

Not bad when you consider that this is the product of 14 hours work in front of a video camera but a little sobering when you consider how difficult it is to get that many people to watch a single video.

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Madge to push for gay rights in Russia

Madonna is set to return to Russia on her tour this summer, and the planned visit is already causing controversy as the pop icon says she plans to defy a new statute in St. Petersburg that outlaws promoting homosexuality.

"I will come to St. Petersburg to speak up for the gay community and to give strength and inspiration to anyone who is or feels oppressed. I'm a freedom fighter," Madonna said in an email, according to Bloomberg.

"I don't run away from adversity. I will speak during my show about this ridiculous atrocity."

Madonna is scheduled to perform in Moscow on August 7 and St. Petersburg on August 9.

Kelly and Valderrama a hot new item?

Minka Kelly and Wilmer Valderrama have been turning heads with their public displays of affection, according to Us Weekly.

The rumoured couple popped up at Greystone Manor Supperclub in West Hollywood, where "they were kissing and grinding," a source says. "They were very flirty and dancing close. They even left with each other."

They were also spotted at Disneyland last month and having dinner earlier this month.

So how serious are things getting between Valderrama and Kelly, who split with Yankees star Derek Jeter last year?

"I wouldn't say they're boyfriend and girlfriend," a source says. "But he's started ignoring calls from some of his other girls."

Wilmer Valderrama

Minka Kelly

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

'I'm in love with love.'

Kardashian opens up about the divorce

THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

Kim Kardashian GETTY IMAGES

Kim Kardashian opened up to Jay Leno about her quickie marriage to Kris Humphries on Wednesday night. It was a lot of what you'd expect: It was nobody's fault, "she still believes in love," blah, blah, blah.

Basically, Kardashian did a great job of making a divorce sound as un-juicy as possible (which is very hard to do).

"I'm a girl who really believes in love, I'm in love with love and I thought this was it for me," she told Leno, never referring to Humphries by name, only as "someone else."

The 31-year-old said that when she "realized [the marriage] wasn't [what] I thought," she "tried to be really respect ful of everyone involved."

"I've heard stories of people who were married for 10 years and they knew it wasn't right, but they wanted to stick it out and had kids," she said.

"I want that forever. I believed in love, I still do. But to be fair to everyone, I knew I had to end it and I'm OK with that decision."

I'm glad she still believes in love. And I rest easy at night knowing she probably also believes in the kind of love that she can make the most money off of.

Rimes may join The X Factor judges

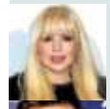
Eddie Cibrian confirms that wife LeAnn Rimes has been in talks about joining the judge's table on The X Factor, according to Extra.

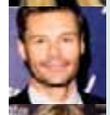
"They've been talking. I have no idea what's going on with that. I think they've been talking to a lot of people," Cibrian says.

"I think she would be unbelievable on a show like that. As a mentor, which is key for that show, The X Factor, I think she has a lot of great input and actually could help these people out. Plus, she can sing."

LeAnn Rimes

Twitter





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Gingers RULE lol

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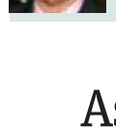

@SteveMartinToGo
So many of you THINK you know what is incredible. But my clocks are still set for standard time.* *BASED ON THE INCREDIBLE TRUE STORY.

A Rihanna and Ashton booty call?

Rihanna

Ashton Kutcher

Rihanna was spotted making a late-night visit to the home of Ashton Kutcher this week, according to TMZ, which posted photos of the singer's black SUV pulling up to the Two and a Half Men star's home.

Rihanna reportedly arrived around midnight — her full security team — and stayed until about 4 a.m.

Adding intrigue to the story is the fact that TMZ removed the item from its site shortly after posting it.

We'll say a little prayer for you, Tebow

NFL star Tim Tebow, who was traded to the New York Jets this week, apparently has things besides football on his mind.

Tebow reportedly has his eye on Glee star Dianna Agron, despite the actress' ongoing relationship with Captain America sidekick Sebastian Stan, according to Fox News.

"Tim has made no secret that he likes Dianna, and told her so, but she has remained faithful to Sebastian," a source says.

But a rumoured split between the couple may be just the opening Tebow needs, even if Agron's rep insists reports of a breakup with Stan are "not true."

Dianna Agron

Tim Tebow

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3 LIFE

Cookbook

The Unofficial Mad Men Cookbook

The Unofficial Mad Men Cookbook serves up more than 70 recipes to satisfy a Mad Men appetite. From the tables of Manhattan's most legendary restaurants and bars to the Drapers' Around the World dinner, this is your entrée to the culinary world of Man Men-era New York.

Packed with period detail, The Unofficial Mad Men Cookbook provides invaluable historical and cultural context for the food and drink featured in the show, tips on throwing a successful '60s cocktail party, and even a guide to favoured Mad Men hangouts. Every recipe inside is authentic to the time.

Recipes include: Sardi's Steak Tartar, Connie's Waldorf Salad, Sal's Spaghetti and Meatballs, Pat Nixon's Date Nut Bread, Lindy's Cheery Cheesecake and more.
METRO

On the web

Want to drink like a mad man? Scan this code for drink recipes.

Liquid Assets

A Canadian Mad Men connection

LIQUID ASSETS
Peter Rockwell
@therealwineguy
peterrockwell@eastlink.ca

Even with the fear of creating a chink in my hipster armour, I have to confess that until recently I'd never seen an episode of Mad Men.

Sure, I've admired Christina Hendricks' talents and had dug out my skinny '80s ties from the back of my closet so I could channel my inner Don Draper, but when it came to watching the soap opera at Sterling Cooper, I just never got around to it.

Now that I'm caught up, I regret not realizing the amazing connection the series has with liquor — especially when it comes to Draper's love for our nation's namesake spirit Canadian Club Whisky (750 ml, $22.99 - $26.98).

First distilled in 1858 by Hiram Walker, C. C.'s aged blend of rye, corn, rye malt and barley malt was a prohibition favourite (a shout out to you Boardwalk Empire fans) that's kept its seductive, mixable caché well past the Mad Men era all the way to today.

Soft, lightly malted and eminently mixable (try using it as the foundation for your next Bloody Caesar), Canadian Club just happens to be the base of an Old Fashioned — Draper's favourite cocktail.

PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.

This recipe serves 12. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dine just like TV ad exec Don Draper

Avocado and Crab Canapes. The popular show returns on Sunday, so get in the mood with eats from Don Draper's era

Does Don Draper do finger food? Judging by the first four seasons of TV's popular Mad Men show it doesn't seem likely unless we're talking about a belt of bourbon with a couple of smoking hot Lucky Strikes on the side.

But since that hardly sounds appetizing, we've come up with something a little tastier to greet the return of Mad Men on AMC on March 25.

Try this delicious avocado and crab mini sandwich if you're looking to get in the Mad Men mood. Avocado — both as a food and colour — was a big hit in the 1960s kitchen. This combo brings in a hint of California, the "Tomorrowland" state where Draper goes to overcome his past.

What will happen this season? Who knows? The show creators are known for being stingy with spoilers. But it seems a safe bet these recipes will make for a perfectly swell party.

1. Heat the oven to 200 C (400 F).

2. Brush each slice of the baguette on both sides with some of melted butter. Arrange bread on a rimmed baking sheet, then season lightly with salt and pepper.

3. Bake the bread for 6 to 7 minutes or until it is toasted and lightly golden.

4. In a small bowl, whisk together the lemon juice, Dijon mustard, hot sauce and olive oil. Gently stir in chopped pimento, avocado cubes and crab meat.

5. Arrange baguette slices on a serving platter. Top each with some of the avocado and crab salad.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ingredients

- 12 slices (cut 1 cm/1/2 inch thick) baguette
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) butter, melted
- Salt and ground black pepper, to taste
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) lemon juice
- 5 ml (1 tsp) Dijon mustard or yellow mustard
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) hot sauce
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) olive oil
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) chopped pimento
- 1 avocado, pitted and cubed
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) lump crab meat

Devilled Ham Eggs. In just four steps

1. Place eggs in saucepan. Add enough water to cover. Bring to boil, then cover pan and remove it from heat. Let pan sit 12 mins; drain eggs and run under cold water until cool enough to handle. Peel.

2. Cut each egg in half lengthwise and remove yolks, collecting in food processor. Set whites aside on serving platter.

3. To yolks, add ham, mayonnaise, mustard, Worcestershire sauce, onion powder, pickle and hot sauce. Pulse until mostly smooth; season with salt and pepper.

4. Spoon yolk mix into a zip-close plastic bag. Use scissors to snip off a bottom corner about 1 cm (1/2 inch) up. Pipe filling into each egg white. Garnish with a pinch of paprika and chopped parsley.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ingredients

- 12 eggs
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) chopped smoked ham
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) mayonnaise
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) Dijon mustard
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) Worcestershire sauce
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) onion powder
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) chopped pickle
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) hot sauce
- Salt and ground black pepper
- Paprika, to garnish
- Chopped fresh parsley, to garnish

This recipe serves 12. MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Stuffed Celery. Tasty snack

Ingredients

- 125 g (4 oz) cream cheese
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) french dressing
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) grated onion
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) chopped pickle
- 45 ml (3 tbsp) chopped stuffed green olives
- Twelve 10-cm (4-inch) lengths celery
- Chopped fresh parsley, to garnish
- Celery leaves, to garnish

1. In a small bowl, mix together cream cheese, french dressing, onion, pickle and olives. Spoon mixture into each of the celery ribs, then arrange them on a serving platter. Garnish with parsley and celery leaves.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

This recipe serves 12.
MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Fragrant Steamed Lemongrass Mussels make for casual appy

These mussels are great for sharing. EMILY RICHARDS

DINNER EXPRESS
Emily Richards
food@metronews.ca

Fragrant lemongrass fills the air with a citrus aroma while the mussels steam to produce a flavourful juice.

A steaming pot of mussels is a wonderful appetizer that can be enjoyed casually as everyone digs in and shares from one pot.

As another option, you could serve this chilled.

Cook as outline here and transfer mussels to a bowl. Boil liquid for about 5 minutes or until reduced by half. (If using chicken stock, do not reduce liquid.) Remove mussels from the shells and add to reduced liquid. Reserve half of each shell. Cover and refrigerate mussels and shells for at least 1 hour or up to 24 hours. Arrange shells on lettuce-lined platter and fill each with a mussel. Drizzle remaining liquid over top and sprinkle with remaining coriander.

1. Trim tops and ends of lemongrass and remove outer layers. Using the back of a knife, gently bruise stalks. Cut in half lengthwise, then crosswise into thin slices.

2. In Dutch oven, heat oil over medium heat. Add garlic and pepper and cook stirring for 1 minute or until fragrant. Add wine, fish sauce, lime rind and juice and half of the coriander. Bring to a boil and add mussels.

3. Cover and cook, stirring once, for about 5 minutes or until all mussels are open. Discard any mussels that do not open. Pour mussels into a large platter and sprinkle with the remaining coriander. **EMILY RICHARDS IS A PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR AND TV CELEBRITY CHEF. FOR MORE, VISIT EMILYIRICHARDSCOOKS.CA**

Ingredients

6 portions

- 2 stalks lemongrass
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) vegetable oil
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 Thai bird chili pepper, sliced
- ¼ cup (50 mL) white wine
- ¼ cup (50 mL) water
- 2 tbsp (25 mL) fish or soy sauce
- ½ tsp (2 mL) grated lime rind
- 2 tbsp (25 mL) lime juice
- ½ cup (125 mL) chopped fresh coriander
- 3 lb (1.5 kg) mussels, rinsed

French Toast with Salmon on Greens. A delicious take on a brunch staple

1. Slice the baguette into ½-inch (1 cm) thick slices to get 12 slices. Set aside.

2. In a shallow dish, whisk together the eggs, cream, parsley, paprika, half of the salt and pepper. Dip each slice of bread into the egg mixture, turning it to coat well.

3. Melt half of the butter in a non-stick skillet over medium-high heat and pan-fry baguette slices for about 3 minutes turning once or until golden. Repeat with remaining baguette slices.

4. In a bowl, toss the mixed greens with oil, lemon juice and remaining salt and divide onto 6 plates. Divide the baguette slices and top with thinly smoked salmon. Sprinkle with red onion and capers.

EMILY RICHARDS

Ingredients

6 portions

- Half of a baguette
- 3 eggs
- ⅓ cup (75 mL) 5% light cream
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) Italian parsley, minced
- ½ tsp (2 mL) smoked paprika
- ¼ tsp (1 mL) salt
- Pinch pepper
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) butter
- 12 cups (3 L) mixed greens
- 2 tbsp (25 mL) olive oil
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) lemon juice
- 1 pkg (4 oz/125 g) thinly sliced smoked salmon
- ¼ cup (50 mL) diced red onion
- 2 tbsp (25 mL) drained capers

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4 SPORTS

Quoted

"That's something that I set out to do, to improve my pitches per inning and go deeper in games."

Toronto's Brandon Morrow, who outpitched Philadelphia's Cliff Lee in the Blue Jays' 2-0 spring-training win over the Phillies on Thursday. Morrow gave up one hit, a single by Carlos Ruiz with one out in the fifth, and a pair of second-inning walks. He threw 59 pitches in five innings. Jays slugger Jose Bautista doubled twice and scored a run.

"I'm thinking through at-bats and watching the way (hitters are) reacting to balls and calling a little bit more of my own game.... All positives."

Brandon Morrow
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Olympics

Babcock wants to return for Sochi

Mike Babcock told The Canadian Press in an interview Thursday that he wants to be behind the bench when Team Canada defends its hockey gold medal at the 2014 Olympics in Sochi, Russia.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Soccer

Reports say no ambulance was available when Indian player died

An Indian soccer player has died after collapsing during a local league game in the southern city of Bangalore.

D. Venkatesh, a 27-year-old mid-fielder for Bangalore Mars, went on as a substitute in the 73rd minute and collapsed toward the end of the Bangalore District Football Association A Division match.

Domestic media reported Thursday that there was no ambulance available and Venkatesh was taken to the hospital on Wednesday in a three-wheel auto-rickshaw.

Preliminary post-mortem reports suggested cardiac arrest was the cause of death.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Soccer

"Where we are now from that moment ... we are astonished."

Bolton manager Owen Coyle on Fabrice Muamba's improvement since suffering an on-field cardiac arrest last Saturday. Coyle said Thursday that Muamba is still seriously ill at London Chest Hospital but that he has improved dramatically.

NHL

Radulov scores, but Penguins win

Nashville's Alexander Radulov scored in his return to the NHL after four years in Russia, but the Penguins picked apart Predators goalie Pekka Rinne as Pittsburgh clinched a playoff spot with Thursday's 5-1 win. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Solid Schneider keeps the Canucks rolling on the road

NHL. Despite one gaffe from the goalie, Canucks held on to improve their conference-best road record to 23-11-5

Cory Schneider didn't allow one glaring mistake to spoil an otherwise solid effort.

Schneider stopped a penalty shot and finished with 25 saves, Mason Raymond scored early in the first period, and the Vancouver Canucks beat the Dallas Stars 2-1 on Thursday night.

Vancouver No. 1 goalie Roberto Luongo got the game off on the second leg of a back-to-back, and Schneider seemed to be on pace for his fourth career shutout until a misplay in the third period allowed Dallas to get on the board.

Schneider went behind his net to play the puck, but fanned when he tried to pass. Dallas' Vernon Fiddler tucked the puck into an open net at 7:44 for his eighth goal of the season.

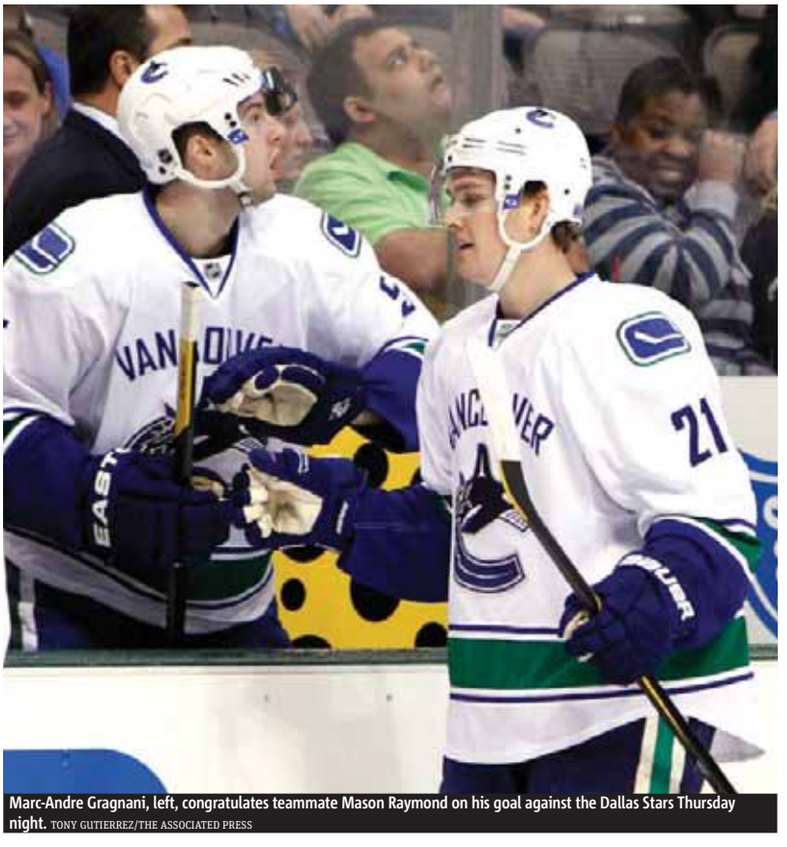
"I felt pretty good playing the puck until that last one," Schneider said. "It was tough to put my team in that position but we didn't crack."

Schneider, who boosted his record to 17-7-1, denied Mike Ribeiro's penalty shot at 12:55 of the second period. Ribeiro tried a nifty move he uses in shootouts to get a shot on the backhand, but Schneider stood his ground and easily stopped the puck.

"I wasn't real sure what he was going to do with it, but he got it pretty tight," Schneider said. "I don't know if he was trying to go past my blocker or through my arm, but I was able to stay with it and make the save." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Daniel Sedin update

- The Canucks were without Daniel Sedin, sidelined indefinitely because of a head injury.
- Sedin is back in Vancouver after taking an elbow to the head from Chicago's Duncan Keith on Wednesday night.
- Henrik Sedin spoke to his brother by phone earlier Thursday, telling reporters after the game that Daniel was still feeling the effects of the elbowing.
- "He has symptoms, a little bit of a headache, which comes with a hit like that," Henrik said.



Marc-Andre Gragnani, left, congratulates teammate Mason Raymond on his goal against the Dallas Stars Thursday night. TONY GUTIERREZ/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Bell
metro

Simon re-signs with history on the line

CFL. Receiver signs extension with Lions, sits just 66 yards back of Stegall mark

After getting a new contract out of the way, Geroy Simon can look forward to his goal of breaking the CFL's all-time receiving yardage record. But the veteran B.C. Lions slotback is looking beyond a chance to make personal history.

"I have my sights on a few different things personally that include wearing another Grey Cup ring," said Simon on Thursday at the club's Surrey practice facility.

The 36-year-old from Johnstown, Pa., is entering his 12th season with the Lions and 14th in the CFL. Simon spent his first two campaigns with the Winnipeg Blue Bombers.

He is just 66 yards shy of former Bomber Milt Stegall's receiving milestone of 15,153. The record appears likely to be broken as the Lions begin the defence of their 2011 Grey Cup on June 29 at home against Winnipeg.

"That (record) was more the focus last year, other than winning the Grey Cup and things like that — 67 yards is, hopefully, something that I can do early in the game or the first quarter or whatever to just get past it," said Simon.

He signed for a year, plus an option. Under the terms of his previous contract signed in 2009, he was due to play out his option this year.

"It's a great feeling to know that the team wants me for more than one year," he said. "Seeing so many veterans that are either retiring or getting released or moving on, it's good to know that the organization has confidence in me that I can play more than one year."

Two contemporaries, former teammate Brent Johnson, who retired earlier this month, and Winnipeg defensive lineman Doug Brown, who officially called it quits Wednesday, are among those moving on.

Simon, who sought employment in the NFL before entering the CFL in 1999, said he put less mileage on his body because he played sparingly in his first two pro seasons after completing his collegiate career at the University of Maryland.

Simon, who lives in the Vancouver area year-round and is active in community projects, is also committed to remaining a Lion for the rest of his career. He had no intention of playing out his option and seeking employment elsewhere.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"After the team gave me an opportunity to be a No. 1 guy and gave me an opportunity to have huge success, I never really thought about leaving."

Geroy Simon, B.C. Lions receiver

Cardinals defence stifles Spartans

Keith Appling of the Michigan State Spartans goes up for a shot between Gorgui Dieng , left, and Jared Swopshire of the Louisville Cardinals in the NCAA West Regional Semifinal game Thursday night in Phoenix. The Spartans were the first No. 1 seed to lose in the tournament. JAMIE SQUIRE/GETTY IMAGES

Soccer

Canada opens Olympics soccer bid with a draw

An attacking El Salvador side couldn't solve goaltender Michal Misiewicz, and Canada opened the CONCACAF Olympic men's soccer qualifying tournament with a 0-0 draw Thursday.

Canada's next game is Saturday against the United States.

Canada has not qualified for the Olympics since the 1984 Los Angeles Games.

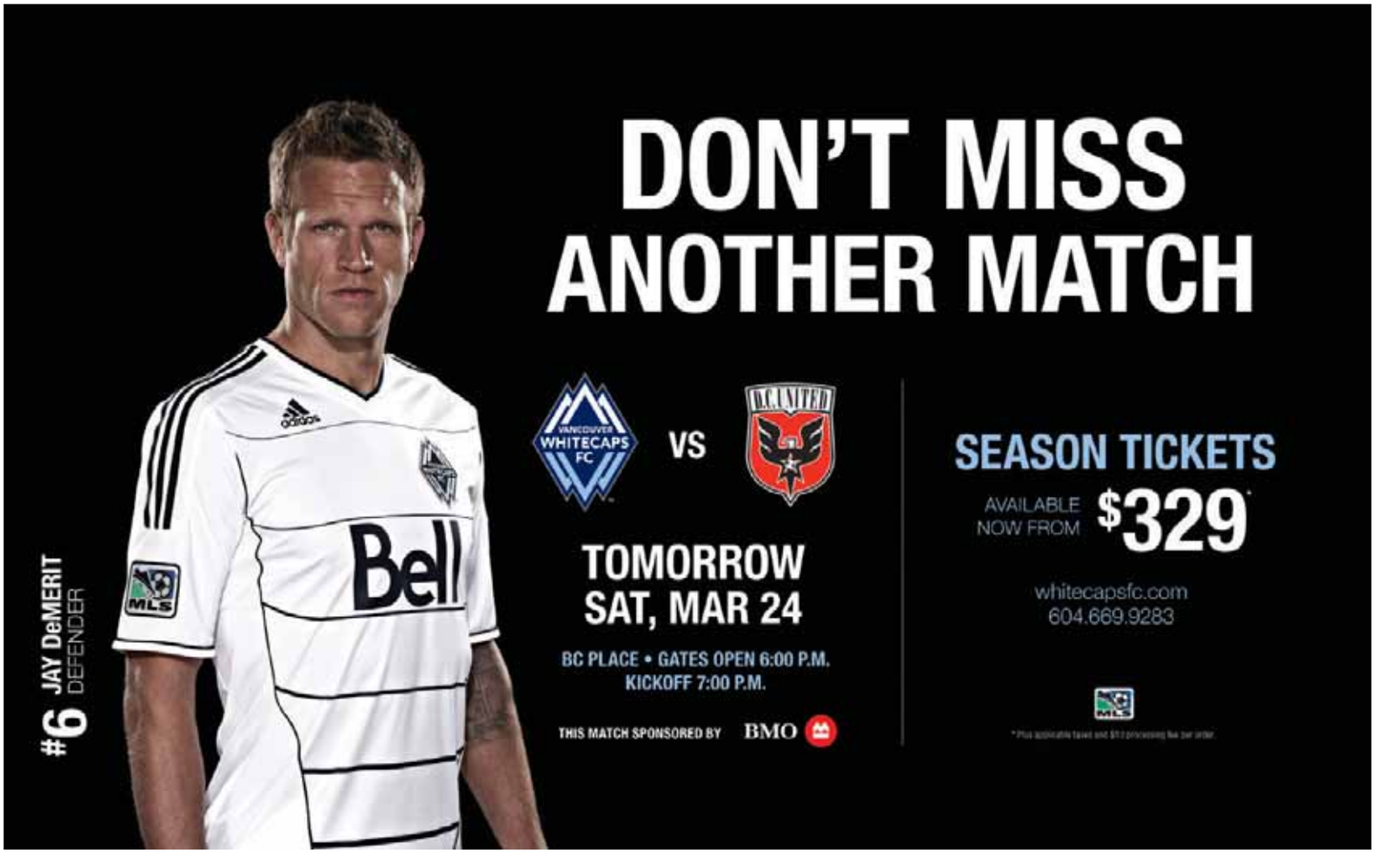
THE CANADIAN PRESS

NFL

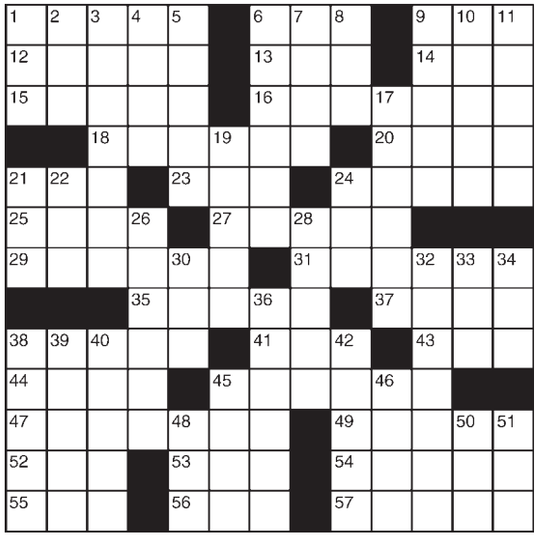
49ers bolster receiving corps

The San Francisco 49ers took another step to bolster their receiving corps by bringing back Ted Ginn Jr. on a one-year contract after finalizing a two-year deal with Mario Manningham.

The team announced the signings Thursday. Manningham agreed to the deal last Saturday but took a few days to complete all the details. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Crossword



Across

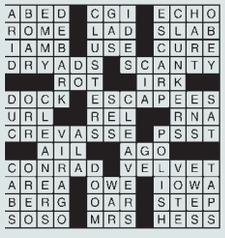
1 Concentrate (on)
6 Sprite
9 Tend 7-Down
12 Welsh dog
13 Arrest
14 Japanese sash
15 Youngster
16 Microblogging service
18 Cravat holder
20 Firetruck necessity
21 Likely
23 [Uncorrected]
24 Suffering from ennui
25 Oboe insert
27 Snake poison
29 Quarterback Dan
31 Not transparent
35 Reached
37 Foolproof
38 Cockeyed
41 Supplement, with "out"
43 Cartoonist's supply
44 Camera part
45 Cheerleaders' companion
47 Sparkle
49 Wood-shop machine
52 Type squares
53 Flightless bird
54 Had a home-cooked meal
55 "Go, team!"
56 Prune
57 Midafternoon

Down

1 Airwaves watchdog org.
2 "— -la-la!"
3 Animal
4 Wrinkly fruit
5 Factions
6 Lure
7 Suburban green
8 J. Edgar's org.
9 Engine
10 Not just plump
11 Overcaffeinated
17 Resurrection doubter
19 Turning point
21 Branch
22 Potpie veggie
24 Jazz style
26 Readers' — 28 Crannies' counterparts
30 Present
32 Defeatist
33 Grecian vessel
34 Cartoon shriek
36 Make into confetti
38 Rags-to-riches author
39 Alabama city
40 Stuffed deli treat
42 Brilliance
45 Office reminder
46 Solemn pledge
48 Aviv lead-in
50 Hasten
51 Away from WSW

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

Yesterday's answer



Sudoku

				9		7		
8	7						1	
	2	4	5			6		
		7	1			2	5	
			6		9			
	8	6			4	3		
		5			2	4	3	
	3						6	5
		9		3				

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer

3	6	2	1	4	9	7	5	8
5	7	4	3	8	2	6	9	1
9	1	8	5	7	6	2	4	3
2	8	7	4	9	3	1	6	5
6	9	5	2	1	7	3	8	4
4	3	1	8	6	5	9	7	2
7	5	3	6	2	4	8	1	9
1	2	6	9	5	8	4	3	7
8	4	9	7	3	1	5	2	6

Send a kiss

- **Husband.** Happy Birthday Husband! I'm so proud of all you've accomplished this past year! I am so excited for what your future holds and I am so lucky to be spending it by your side. You're my everything.<3 From Your Panda Bear
- **Sexy Greg.** Is it love? Infatuation? All I know is the warm weather is coming and so are the cut off shorts , wool socks and red work boots ... When you walk by I cannot get enough of your crazy calfs ... And your cinnamon breath . oh how I long to be the honey to your peanut butter sandwich ... Make a noise like a duck ! Scooter
- **My Penguin.** You are my whole world. From the moment I wake until the moment I fall asleep, you are on my mind and in my thoughts. I never thought it was possible to love this much or feel something this big. I have made my share of mistakes with you but, loving you will never be one of them. I will always be there to protect you and make you feel safe. My only wish is to spend the rest of my life finding new ways to make you happy. From Big Love

Today 10°/2° Mainly sunny
Saturday 11°/4° Partly cloudy
Know what the weather will be 14 days from now.
Check the 14 day trend.
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Horoscope

Aries | March 21 - April 20. As retrograde Mercury slips out of your sign, you won't be quite so sure about your opinions as you usually are — and that's good.

Taurus | April 21 - May 21. Make this an ideas day, a day when you make an effort to think outside the box.

Gemini | May 22 - June 20. There's no point in being anxious. Look at your situation calmly because only when you do that are you going to find the answers.

Cancer | June 21 - July 22. You may not be able to explain why you don't trust someone who seems honest, but you know better than to ignore your instincts.

Leo | July 23 - Aug. 22. Start thinking seriously about what you can and can't afford and how you're going to pay what you owe.

Virgo | Aug. 23 - Sept. 22. If you need to put a relationship on a firmer footing, the return of Mercury to your opposite sign today will help you.

Libra | Sept. 23 - Oct. 22. Don't be slow to junk old routines if it becomes obvious that they are no longer up to the task of getting you from where you are now to where you want to be tomorrow.

Scorpio | Oct. 23 - Nov. 21. You need to think more seriously about a creative or artistic venture you've just been toying with.

Sagittarius | Nov. 22 - Dec. 21. Today's cosmic influences will give you the opportunity to smooth things out at home.

Capricorn | Dec. 22 - Jan 20. Be careful what you say today because you could easily let something slip that would have been better to keep to yourself.

Aquarius | Jan. 21 - Feb 18. Are you following a certain course of action because that is what you really want to do or because you think it is expected of you?

Pisces | Feb. 19 - March 20. You won't have just one good idea today, you'll have dozens. Write them down and decide what ones to pursue later. SALLY BROMPTON

Caption Contest

"A little rough for hackie sack!"
Rick

LEE JIN-MAN/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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LOOK AGAIN SPOT THE 10 DIFFERENCES IN THESE TWO IMAGES.

Edmonton, Alberta – The 2012 Chevrolet Traverse is standing out while standing still in front of this suburban home. When you're a Consumer's Digest Best Buy and have a 5- Star NHTSA safety rating, you'll want to soak in the sun too.

1- Added additional windowsill décor to the left of image 2- Removed flower from bottom left of image 3- Lowered plants left of the 2012 Chevrolet Traverse 4- Removed step from front of house 5-Added second vase left of the 2012 Chevrolet Traverse 6- Removed window from rear of house 7- Removed window ledge from window above the 2012 Chevrolet traverse 8- Removed branch from in front of garage 9- Added additional windows to garage door 10- Removed light from right side of garage

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